

SKIN DIVER

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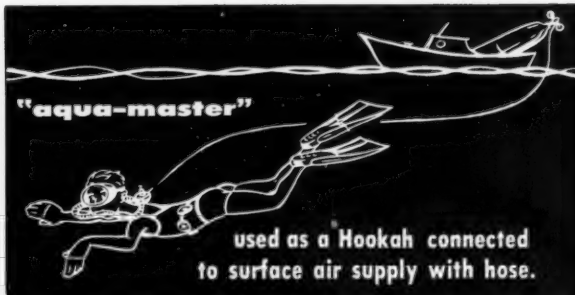
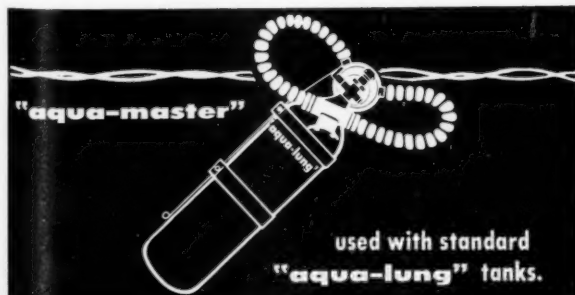
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COVER

Terry Lentz of the Long Beach Neptunes, of the West Coast Championship team, of the United States team to the World Championship . . . and now . . . Terry Lentz, **WORLD CHAMPION UNDERWATER SPEARFISHERMAN**. Read the complete story of the **MALTA VICTORY** on Page 12. Cover photo by Renee Denis.

editorial

Caution to spearfishermen in Wisconsin and visitors to that State's waters. There have been several misinterpretations of underwater fishing regulations and jurisdictional powers of State and Federal in the region resulting in heavy fines levied on skin divers. Be sure to thoroughly check with the local Warden before entering the water and spearing fish or if you can't find a Warden, write to Walter J. Zelinske, Assistant Chief Warden, State of Wisconsin, Conservation Department, Madison 1, Wisconsin. Also check Publication 708-58 of the Wisconsin Conservation Department.

Georgia House Bill number 363 reads ". . . the spearing of rough fish solely for the purpose of sport, in the fresh waters of this State, shall be LAWFUL provided the person engaged in the act of spearing shall be completely submerged . . .". Another State joins the ranks of those calling the sport of skin diving a sport and allowing divers to take their fair share of the natural resources. Congratulations Georgia and Georgia divers. However, there is a barbed hook tacked on to the end of the new regulation. This new law for Georgia also requires that the diver shall have a Georgia Fishing License and a **ROUGH FISH SPEARFISHING LICENSE**. A special license (fee, tariff, special tax, call it what you like) is required for spearing rough fish in Georgia. The cost to residents for the SPECIAL license, in addition to the regular license, is \$2.25 . . . non-residents \$3.25.

There may be an excellent reason for the special license but I doubt it. What reason could there be to place a special license on divers, underwater swimmers or spearfishermen?

features

- New Endurance Record 5
- Holiday in the Florida Keys 6
- Shark Attack Victim Report 7
- Odd Fish 8
- Universal Snapshots 10
- MALTA VICTORY**
- World Underwater Spearfishing Championship 12
- Sea Stories from Morgan 18
- Autobiography of a Skin Diver, from July 1954 20
- MIKE NELSON — SEA HUNT — LLOYD BRIDGES** 22
- Alaska Salvage 30
- Burrud Brings Home the Silver 31
- "A Boys' Ocean" 35
- Diving Gals Go Navy 38
- We Planted the Reef 40
- Something Fishy 41
- Sport — Adventure — Exploration 42

departments

- Underwater Bookshelf Cover ii
- Letters 4
- Personality Spotlight 16
- Question & Answer Column 21
- Driftwood 28
- Announcements 34
- Instructors' Corner 36
- Underwater Society of America 39
- Flipper McSplash 39
- Compressed Air Stations 60
- Divers' Bulletin Board 64

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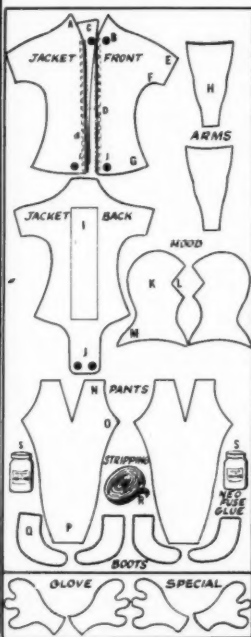
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A. New high neck; B. Protective flap snap; C. Protective flap; D. Pre-installed zipper; E. Free Flow offset shoulders; F. No bind armholes; G. New fuller length; H. Custom tapered arms; I. Pre-installed spine pad; J. Pre-installed crotch snaps; K. No press ear pocket; L. Snug fit face port; M. No roll hood flap; N. New High rise; O. Custom fitted seat; P. Custom tapered legs; Q. New Higher boots; R. Precut stripping in black, red, yellow or green—enough for all seams of shirt, pants, hood, and gloves. S. 2 bottles World Famous NEO FUSE Glue.

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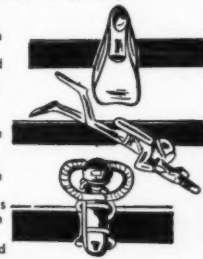
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LETTERS

Arrival of Novice Diver
Kent Lee Helwig
(Girl)

Landed: September 9, 1959
Weight: 7 pounds, 4 ounces

Location: Guam, M. I.
To Senior Divers
Jeanne & Carl Helwig
"South Sea Searchers"
Guam, M. I.

Die gluckliche Geburt
eines gesunden
Son

David Carroll
April 5, 1959
zeigen hochehfreut an
David C. Parks
Mary Ann Parks
Zurich, Switzerland

... Your magazine, since its inception, has been the skin diving fraternity's Bible both here in the U.S. and abroad. So we have written this letter in the hope that you will print our grievance or, if not, that you will advise as to the course of action we should follow.

Our club was originated in 1956 by a small group of avid skin divers and since then it has grown to an average membership of forty divers. From a humble beginning it has become one of the most active clubs in the state. We are members of the Georgia State Skin Diving Association and the Amateur Athletic Union. In competition we have held our own, this year becoming Georgia State Champs. We have been called on in many instances to help the Air Force and local authorities on dives of an emergency nature, from body recovery to searching for downed aircraft. These dives are of a strictly voluntary nature, and we can proudly say we have yet to fail to answer a call for aid.

All of the above items may appear trivial to some, but we who have built the club to the respected position it now holds within the surrounding communities, the Air Force, State, Southeast region and in the skin diving world, hate to see a group of new clubs come up with the name we have strived so hard to build up—such clubs as the Aqua Gators of St. Paul, Minn. and the Aqua Gators of Pearl River, New York. We live in an area where 'gators are prevalent and we have never heard of alligators running rampant through the wilds of New York and Minnesota!

We do not wish to deprive any group of skin divers of the right to start a club if they choose. But we do, as a point of honor, wish to protest the use of our club name by the aforementioned clubs or any future clubs.

We have written the abovenamed clubs, but due to lack of correct address were unable to contact the Minn. club, and have as yet had no answer from the New York club.

Yours for better skin diving,
SSGT. Nels J. Nelson Jr.
President Aqua Gators of Moody AFB.
Director Georgia State Skin Divers Assoc.
Member Amateur Athletic Union

... Finally last week Mike Nelson used a Divers Flag. This is at least a start. It seems to me all divers should start a campaign to have the flag exploited. The ignorance of boat owners as to the Divers Flag is really deplorable. Couldn't we all join a common cause and get programs such as "Sea Hunt," "Bold Journey," "Kingdom of the Sea," et al, interested to the point where they would make an issue of it?

Vaughn Nickerson
615 West 8th St.
Chester, Penna.

P. S. Why doesn't some manufacturer make a sturdy Divers Flag for car aerials?

... Why are there no letters or stories about North Carolina? I know there are quite a few divers around the Nags Head, Belhaven, and New Bern area. I would like to hear from a few of them.

T. W. Morris MM3
U.S.S. Ammen (DD 527)
F.P.O. San Francisco, Calif.



... Frank Perez Jr., holding the first place trophy for the Northeast Championship, didn't attend the trophy awards for the Nationals (in which his team placed fourth) because he was asleep. A doctor in charge of the medical department at the Nationals gave him medication to ease the pain of a run-in with fire coral and water lice during the competition and he slept right through the awards presentation and team picture taking. So here's his picture.

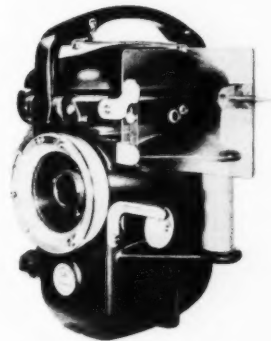
Father of Frank Perez Jr.

... My wife and I were members of the Associated Skin Divers in Hartford, Conn., until moving to Florida several months ago. We have both written letters but to no avail. We are interested in knowing how they are doing and would appreciate your putting this in your letters column to prompt them a little.

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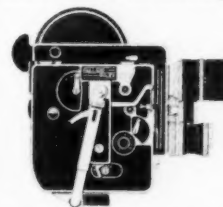
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NEW ENDURANCE RECORD --- 79 hours 8 minutes

Underwater endurance records have been coming in like waves on the beach . . . the latest arrival is the new time of 79 hours and 8 minutes, breaking all others, accomplished by Robert Ingolia (above) in the Riviera Bath Club pool in Manhasset, L.I., New York. Ingolia, a resident of Port Washington, L.I., New York, had planned to stay under for more than 100 hours but could not endure the pain in his hands. Mac Snyder, his manager, reports that Ingolia used 45,000 pounds of air and slept an average of six hours each night.

Below, Mack Thomson receives a trophy from fellow club members for setting a new underwater endurance record (temporary) of 72 hours 5 minutes 35 seconds. Thomson spent his last weekend in the training tank of Puget Sound Divers in Seattle, Washington. Photo by David Wilson, Aqua Photo Research, Inc.



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HOLIDAY IN THE FLORIDA KEYS

by Charles B. Brown

I HAVE just returned from a three-week stay on the Florida Keys, two weeks of which were spent on the Reef Corsair with Captain Hugh Brown. The group consisted mostly of New Yorkers who turned out to be excellent swimmers and very good company. They were Mr. and Mrs. Mel Small, Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Shabman, Mr. Murray Seligter, Lynn Shipp and mate Lairy Hiler. One of the New York clubs represented on this trip was the Long Island Dolphins and they told of Dick Ferg's death which was recently written up in "Skin Diver Magazine."

A week was spent in and around the seven Dry Tortugas Islands and the surrounding shoals and waters in the Gulf of Mexico. An interesting inspection was also made of the century-old fort on Garden Key. These coral keys were discovered by Ponce de Leon in 1513 and named las Tortugas because of the great amount of turtles which breed there. Later, the name Dry Tortugas warned the mariners that there was no fresh water there.

Jay Bartles, a friend of Dr. Eugenie Clarke and also a shark expert, accompanied us on one of our trips to Texas Reef and proved to be an interesting companion and expert photographer. The unfavorable weather did not prevent us from visiting interesting and exciting places. One especially thrilling was a wreck around which a large group of huge jewfish was swimming—average weight from 400 to 600 lbs! Above the wreck in the swirling waters a large

school of silver tarpon circled us and I was amazed to see a few giant barracuda swimming with them. This was all filmed by "yours truly," who returned with 13 reels of 16mm movie film in color.

There is not enough space to tell of all the events and adventures, which included contacts with sharks. We returned to Key West for additional supplies, fuel, water and weather reports and crossed the Gulf Stream to Cay Say in the Bahama waters. It seems the waters here are constantly crystal clear, and reefs of coral and "forests" of marine plants and brilliant tropical fish waiting to be admired and filmed can be seen very clearly.

Life aboard the Reef Corsair was not hard to take, with meals of steak, fish, turkey, crawfish and other specialties. The group got along well and each day from early morning to dusk was spent in the ocean, with almost as many cameras around as one would see at the zoo. Everyone was experienced in skin and scuba diving and a dive was made on the continental shelf. The dive was made by holding tightly to the guide line and onto the anchor line as well, because of the swift current and dangerous underground river which could pull a diver to his death if he lost hold. The beauty to be seen was unbelievable, and it is unfortunate indeed that the camera I had was not pressurized for this depth (which I noted was 155 feet). My future camera, you may be sure, will be capable of taking films at almost any depth. A lot of beautiful coral and sponges were brought back.

Swimming closely together, Captain Brown, Lairy and I swam to the edge of the slope which is an immense cliff-like structure dropping down as much as 30,000 feet into the vast, deep basin of the sea. In many places I imagine there must be deep submarine canyons gouged out by the swift underground river. The light at 155 feet was a very weird blue—a fascinating color. After a very cautious look over the edge and keeping an ever watchful eye out for anything aggressive that might come swimming up from this depth, we returned to the surface and the Reef Corsair. This was another of the highlights of the trip.

I hope that all skin and scuba divers from Illinois can make trips like this in the future, and I would be happy to give additional information and aid to any club or group planning ocean trips. Contact me through the Lawson YMCA, 20 Fathoms Club, Chicago, Illinois. ☐



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SKIN DIVER—November 1959



Mr. and Mrs. Andre Berube were pleasantly surprised as they trotted down the church steps and found their underwater friends giving them a six speargun salute . . . appropriate enough as a sendoff for an underwater honeymoon. All are residents of Montreal, P.Q., Canada. The honeymoon was at Perce, Que., where many 35mm underwater slides were taken. Left to right are Guy Gaudreau, Claude Lajoie, Richer Brouillette, the newlyweds, Jean Charles Rollin, Jacques Perron and Eugene Montpetit.

SHARK ATTACK VICTIM GIVES HIS ACCOUNT, LA JOLLA, CALIF.

(prepared for North Shores Sentinel)

By Verne Fleet

What's all the commotion about?!!

I realize that being bitten by a shark is unusual, but the injury was only superficial. I have received much more serious injuries by being slammed against the rocks by a wave. While I do not scoff at sharks, I do not feel they should be feared to the point of panic. I can hardly believe the amount of publicity engendered over my encounter with the hammerhead shark. I don't know whether to attribute our meeting to the fact that I had a fish tied to my belt, or to the fact that I just happened to be swimming in the same part of the ocean as he was.

I am a permanent city lifeguard. My summer duty is that of Sailing Master of the Windward Boat Club at Santa Clara Point. Virtually all of my leisure is spent skin diving in one form or another. Tuesday evening was no different from any other in the previous couple of months. When I closed the boat club I jumped into my Jeep and headed for La Jolla Cove, to spearfish for yellowtail with the other divers with whom I dive. When I reached the Cove the others were already in the water, so I put on my gear, slid into the water off Alligator Head, and headed for the kelp. I had been in the water a half hour or so when I spotted a small school of barracuda. Not having seen anything else, I decided to shoot one; at least I wouldn't be skunked!

I tied the barracuda to my belt and started swimming upcurrent toward the Casa Pool. I spotted a single bonito, dived on it but didn't get a shot. I swam on until I was off Boomer Beach on the inside of the kelp. Here I saw a school of bonito, dived and took a shot. The line on my gun fouled, stopping the shaft short, so I missed my fish. I was lying fairly motionless on the surface, cursing my gun and trying to untangle the line, when I felt a slight stinging sensation in my left leg.

Brushing it with my hand and rolling to see what it was, I was quite startled, to say the least, to see a hammerhead shark swim-

ming away. I looked at my leg to see how badly it was bitten. Seeing the small punctures and that I was not bleeding I turned my attention back to the shark and my gun. The shark stayed in sight and made a lazy, curious pass to within 10-12 feet of me to look me over, then swam away. After three of these passes he swam leisurely off toward the kelp trailing a piece of monofilament fishing line, from being hooked or from swallowing someone's yellowtail. After the shark swam off I loaded my gun and swam backwards to the shore.

From the description I could give this shark was identified as a common hammerhead shark. They are common in these waters and are seen just about every day by commercial fishermen off our coast. They are known to bite propellers by mistake when chasing hooked fish to the boat. Hammerhead sharks are carnivorous and any sport fisherman will tell you that on some days at the Coronado Islands it is hard to get a whole fish into the boat due to sharks biting at them.

I don't know how much truth there is in it, but I have been told that because the eyes of the hammerhead shark are out on each end of a bar-like structure they could have poor eyesight. If this is true then it is entirely possible that after a hammerhead shark gets just so close he cannot see his prey. This could explain why he missed my fish on the right side of me and bit my left leg. I could have moved enough while out of his line of vision to have caused the error.

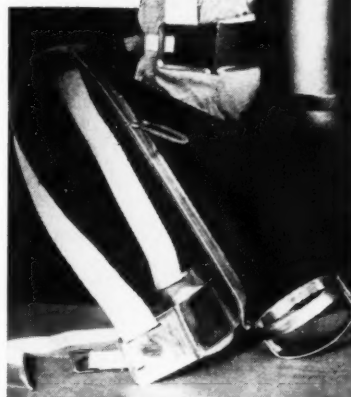
I don't feel that sharks are any more plentiful now in this area than in the past. Since the unfortunate incident of this summer people are more shark conscious. Every single day scores are killed, mutilated, and injured on our highways, yet people continue to drive like madmen, drive while drinking, and to slaughter one another with their automobiles. I see no reason for letting shark incidents scare people out of the water. Your odds are still better in the ocean with its creatures than they are on our highways!

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Trigger Fish . . . common in tropical waters and easily recognized by the familiar shape, completely baffled the California diver. Turtle, puffer fish and other tropicals have been seen and captured in Southern California areas this year.

ODD FISH!!

By BRUCE PETERSON

After diving for about two years at Flatrock Point in Palos Verdes, California, I thought I'd seen about everything the inquiring mind could find. I have recently viewed a sight, however, that would arrest the attention of even the most experienced of divers.

Early one morning I was diving for bass in waters about 400 yards north of the group of rocks that lie off the point. Having no luck I decided to move south. As I swam I noticed that the water had turned a milky gray, getting thicker the farther I went. Compared with the 25-35-foot clarity I had been diving in I was now in water with only 10-15 foot visibility.

At about 20 feet I made a practice dive in order to clear my ears. Upon making a second dive I noticed a grotesque figure ahead of me making its way to safety in the curtain of milky film that lay just beyond. Too late for a sure shot, I swam very rapidly over the "valley" of mist that hung below me and met Mr. Fish face to face. My shaft sank deeply into the flesh of one of the oddest creatures I'd ever seen.

That evening I contacted Mr. John Prescott, Assistant Curator to Ken Norris at the Marineland of the Pacific, and asked if he would positively identify the strange creature for me. It turned out to be a fish from the waters below Ensenada and parts of Central and South America. Known as the Trigger Fish, this particular specimen was about two feet long, and I presented it to the University of California for its collection at Los Angeles.

One theory for the fish's migrating to such northerly waters is the same as that for the many tropical sharks that have made their presence known throughout the area—the unusually warm waters prevalent along the Southern California coast this summer. It all goes to show that you really can't know what to expect when you slip beneath that cold, strange, silent watery domain.

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32 inch, teen-year Poplar, w Larry mad

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32 inch, 13½ pound Carp taken by underwater spearfisherman Larry L. Robertson . . . fourteen-year-old member of the Kansas City Frogman Club. Larry and his folks, June and Ralph Poplar, were vacationing at Pontiac, Lake Bull Shoals, and all were together underwater when Larry made his catch.

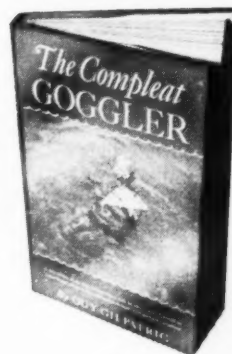
Members of the ACSUI&RU (SFOAC) . . . Alameda County Sheriff's Underwater Investigation & Rescue Unit (Star Fish of Alameda County) . . . pose before their most recent trophy. Okalana (Calif.) police called on the group to find two cars in the Airport Channel under 25 feet of muck. The cars were promptly found and hauled to the beach. One of them had been stolen in Alaska.



(Left to right)
Donald B. Cates,
William Kurz,
Albert R. Silvey,
Robert A. Serack,
and Vincent Leger.



Here is the first book ever written about "Goggle Fishing," now known as Skin Diving, the classic in the field. Mr. Gilpatric tells exactly how it is done and gives full details, drawings and photographs of the spears and goggles. A new section by James Dugan brings it up at date on the latest equipment.



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Earle Williamson and
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ezuela.

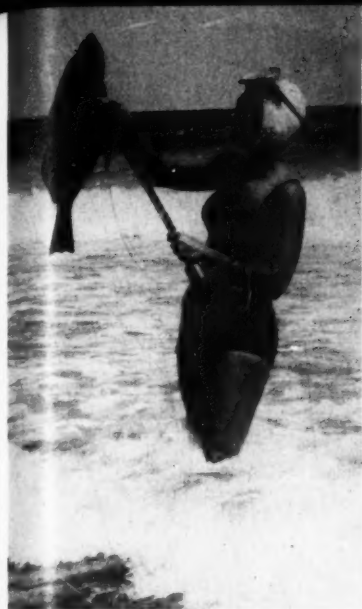


Pedro Soberats Trigueros and
one of the catches that has
made him a Cuban Champion.
Photo by Jose Raex.

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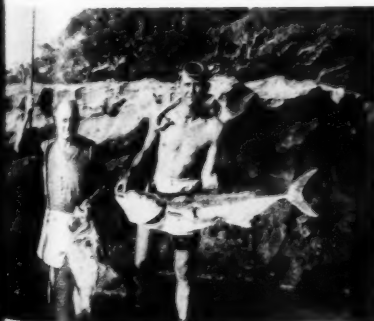


Barbara Silze of Corona Del Mar, California. . . something was said about, "men don't get all of the fish."



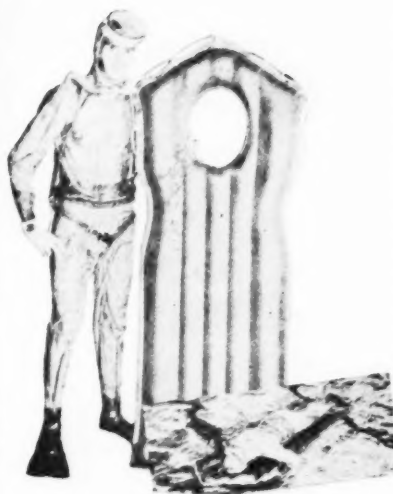
Buzz Campbell, well known in Palm Beach, Miami, Bahamas and underwater as an all around skin diving guide and instructor.

Frank Stewart and Maarten Spit of Edgecombe, New Zealand, with a 13 lb. Snapper and a 44 lb. Kingfish.



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MALTA VICTORY

19 NATIONS COMPETE IN WORLD SPEARFISHING EVENT

TERRY LENTZ PLACES FIRST
U.S.A. RECEIVES THIRD POSITION HONORS

Photography by Renee Denis and Philip Nash

ARRIGO AZZOPARDI

By GUSTAV DALLA VALLE

"C'EST vrai, ils sont formidables!" "Avevi ragione! Sono dei pescatori fortissimi!" The Europeans were full of praise for the American team. We proved in Malta finally that the Americans are equal to the best European divers.

Competing for the first time in the World Underwater Spearfishing Competition, Terry Lentz, of Monterey Park, California, won the first prize for the United States in the Individual Classification. Terry, a quiet, almost shy, student at Long Beach State College, was very popular among the competitors, and everyone agreed that not a better man could have won the prize. Terry Lentz is not a powerful man, but he compensates for this with an intelligent training system and great tenacity. He is a great diver. We interviewed Terry after the competition:

That was really a tremendous victory you made today, Terry! How are you feeling now, after six hours of competition?

I feel fine—and, oddly enough, I wasn't as tired after this Meet as I have been after a four-hour meet in California. There we use surf mattresses for transportation and it can take an hour to go from the beach to the competition area. Under a hot sun, wearing a neoprene suit, and with an increasing load of fish to haul around it can be exhausting. Here, on the contrary, the boatman did all the hauling, and I was free to dive. Altogether, I spent five and a half hours in the water.

Do you think you did the best of your possibilities today?

I really could have done better; I was not feeling too well the first three hours of the meet. But then, a lot of the other divers were not in top form either.

How did you find the water conditions?

The water was warmer than it generally is in California, and much clearer, as much as 60'. But, of course, it was necessary to dive deeper than we do

there, and we hit the thermocline anywhere from five to eighty feet.

At what depth were you generally fishing?

Generally between sixty and seventy feet. I was making dives of a little over a minute.

And how did the fishing here in the Mediterranean compare to fishing in California?

The fish here are about two to three times deeper, they are scarcer, and definitely spooky. I fished along an area that was mostly a drop-off to 120'. The fish would be in ledges in the drop-off. It was necessary to go down and look under these ledges and into the caves. I got most of my poundage off a small island about one hundred yards from the shore—it had a very steep drop-off—and I just kept circling it. I got both of my big groupers there, and Don got his biggest there, too.

Did you have much trouble getting that big grouper?

The fairly e water a But the pounds, an hour He went there. ber of get tha guns, I around knife an off to 8 ning of as thou day.

I can Tell m Europe

It wa Europe niques the Sta deeper weighte to float ventilat ing. T and stay much o

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SKIN D

The biggest (about 47 pounds) was fairly easy—I got him in about 45' of water and it took only fifteen minutes. But the second, which was about 35 pounds, was in 65' of water, and it took an hour and a quarter to get that one. He went straight into a cave and stuck there. I had to make an endless number of dives, and before I was able to get that grouper, there were my two guns, lines and shafts wrapped all around the rocks, and I had lost my knife and weight belt where it dropped off to 85'—that was right at the beginning of the Meet, and it really looked as though it was going to be a tough day.

I can imagine it was a job all right. Tell me, what do you think of the European divers?

It was extremely interesting to see the Europeans. They use a variety of techniques that are not usually practiced in the States, because they generally work deeper than most U.S. divers. They use weighted spring guns, and lines attached to floats. They use the system of hyper-ventilation for long periods before diving. They generally dive more slowly and stay longer, though they don't travel much on the bottom.

If the best divers here were competing in California waters, how do you think they would compare with local divers?

I think that the Californians would win by a good margin. Most of the fish in California are free swimmers—opaleye and sheephead—and it takes a lot of time and experience to know what their habits and reactions are. Here, most of the fishing is in caves, quite different from our general experience. Most European divers are not accustomed to cold water or murky water conditions. But the Europeans would have the advantage in depth diving. It would be a very interesting experience, as well as a pleasure, to have European divers come to our country for a competition.

SPANISH TEAM FIRST

Top place in the team classification of the World Competition was won by Spain. The Spanish team placed first for the third time since the beginning of the World Championships in 1954, when they won the first Meet in Sestri Levante, Italy, and again at Bastia, France, in 1956. The members of the Spanish team were four big rugged divers who worked easily at 80'. Bernardo Marti, of the Spanish team, won second place in the Individual Classification.

Italy placed second in the Team Classification, and Claudio Ripa, of the Italian team, placed third in the Individual Classification, despite an unfortunate occurrence during the competition. The wind blew up while the competition was in progress and the water

became choppy and developed a high swell. Ripa's boat was pushed by the currents about a half-mile away from where he was diving. When the boat was found, the oarsman was in a state of complete exhaustion and, in fact, fainted upon being transferred to another boat. Ripa had to give up the last half-hour of the competition because his boat was not manned.

Third place in the Team Classification was won by the United States. Is third place the best we could have done? In any competition, some luck is involved. All the competitors at Malta were permitted to inspect the competition area several days before the Meet. The American team had inspected the area and had found one particularly

good spot with several large groupers. But the Spaniards had also discovered the place. In fact, the day of the Competition, there was a wild race between the two teams to reach that excellent spot—and the Spaniards got there first.

Don Del Monico did second best of the American team, and placed fourth in the Individual Classification. For Del Wren and Paul Damman it was not their good day. Actually Del and Paul are equally as good divers as Terry and Don, but it can happen to the best of athletes. At the first World Competition at Sestri Levante, Catalani (Individual winner in 1957) and Ruggero, one of the best Italian divers of that

(Continued on Next Page)



The three leading underwater spearfishermen of the world—(center) Terry Lentz, U.S.A., first place winner; (left) Bernardo Marti, Spain, second place winner; (right) Claudio Ripa, Italy, third place winner. Photo copyright by Victor de Sanctis.



Members of the first place Spanish team gather to receive their victory flag. The three leading team members placed second, sixth and eighth in the individual classifications.



The United States representative team consisted of divers from two coasts and three clubs, above (l-r) Terry Lentz, Long Beach (Calif.) Nepunes; Don Del Monica and Paul Damman, Miami (Fla.) Skin Divers Club; and Del Wren, Muirmen Club of Los Angeles, Calif.



The United States delegation as they appeared to the populace of Malta and the other competitors. This parade of nations was held during the welcoming ceremonies. Gustav Dalla Valle is carrying the banner, followed by Coach Jim Christensen, the team members and Mr. Nixon Griffis on the extreme right.

time, both of whom live in nearby Genoa, competed during the full six-hour competition, and neither succeeded in catching one fish!

OUR NEIGHBOR BRAZIL

Brazil proved its strength again, as it had in Portugal, and arrived in fourth place. It is interesting to note that the only two representatives of the Western Hemisphere classified in the first four places. We asked Victorio Berredo, President of the Brazilian Underwater Association and Representative of Brazil to the CMAS, for his impressions about the outcome of the World Competition.

Not only did the Western Hemisphere place as well as the Eastern in the Team Classification, but in the Individual Classification there were three Western Hemisphere winners, and two Eastern Hemisphere winners. What is your opinion about that, Senor Berredo?

I think that the spearfishermen from our side of the world are unquestionably equal to the European divers. Luck plays a part in this sport, but the best divers always come out on top.

Do you consider it a big handicap for us to be competing in distant countries, and under entirely different circumstances?

Well, the greatest handicap is the depth. In Brazil we do not need to dive so deep, as there are plenty of fish in shallower water, so we are not accustomed to diving so deep as one must here. As far as it being a different country is concerned—the French said that because Malta was located in the Mediterranean, they did not bother to come early enough to inspect the local conditions, and, as you see, they suffered for it.

You had an International Competi-

tion in Brazil this year, and apparently the European divers did not do so well there as the Brazilians do here.

Well, that was more a fiesta than a competition. The reasons for it were that, first, Brazil wants to have the World Competition in Brazil in 1961, so I wanted the Europeans to have a chance to see what conditions are like in Brazilian waters. Second, we have many young people who are good depth divers, and because I could not send them all to Europe, we invited the Europeans to come to Brazil for an exchange of ideas. My purpose was to give our divers a chance to see the European depth divers. We found that the Italians were the best, and they gave us many ideas. We were also able to show them our techniques, especially in catching big fish.

As you have the same problem as we do, to send your team a great distance to these Championships in Europe, we wonder how you get the necessary funds for the trip?

As members of the Brazilian Confederation of Sports, it is the government which takes care of our expenses.

A SPEARFISHERMEN PARADE

The opening ceremonies of the 1959 World Spearfishing Championship at Malta began with a new event in the history of the Championships—a parade of the 19 teams along Kingsway, the Fifth Avenue of the capital, which was lined with an enormous crowd of about fifteen thousand people, who cheered and threw flowers and garlands to the competitors. The teams marched to the Palace Square, where his Excellency Sir Guy Grantham, Governor of Malta, and His Grace Sir Michael Gonzi, Metropolitan Archbishop of Malta, waited to welcome the competitors. It was a beautiful show, with the band playing, the flags of the 19 countries waving, and the teams lined up before the podium. Sir Grantham warmly welcomed us all. His Grace Sir Michael Gonzi blessed the competitors, and both spoke to each of the teams, displaying enthusiastic interest in the Competition.

This was the first World Competition sponsored by the CMAS, the World Confederation of Underwater Activities, under the presidency of Commander Jacques Yves-Cousteau. The 1959 Championship was organized by the Malta Sub-Aqua Club, and Mr. Eric Pace Bonello, president of the Club, was Chairman of the Organizing Committee.

The headquarters of the spearfishing competition were based at Malieha, a fishing village on the north coast of Malta. Nearby is famous St. Paul's Bay, where the ship of St. Paul the Apostle sank when he was traveling from Jerusalem to Rome. St. Paul landed on the island of Malta and converted the people to Christianity. The catacombs of St. Paul are here as well as several

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The teams landing at the weighing platform after the competition.

pagan temples. Malta is located between the island of Sicily and the north coast of Africa and is completely different from any country we have seen. For one thing, it is rainless in the summers. Also, the island is a maze of stone walls which hold the bare shallow earth from being blown away by the winds. Actually there are three islands, Malta, Gozo, and Kemmauno. The Competition area started from the north coast of Malta, surrounded the island of Kemmauno, and extended to halfway along the southern and northern coasts of Gozo, covering an area of about 45 square miles.

THE COMPETITION DAY

The competition was held on the 16th



Coach Jim Christiansen

SKIN DIVER—November 1959

of August, which dawned sunny and hot. The competitors gathered on the beach of Malieha at 8:45. There were 79 boats in the bay—one for each of the competitors and each manned with an oarsman and a judge—the parent ship for each team, emergency boats, press boats, and official ships to carry spectators. The boats were tied to their respective parent ships and towed to the rendezvous at Ras Il-Qala, in the center of the competition area. At ten o'clock the signal was fired and the competition started.

The duration of the World Competitions is six hours. The competitors are free to use their boats as much as they wish, but they must stay at least 150' apart from each other. There can be no cooperation among members of a team—in Europe, the Individual Classification is equally as important as the Team.

Although the weather was clear, at about 11:00 the sea became rather choppy. The Kemmauno Channel was rough and had a strong undercurrent. The water was not as warm as it had been expected it would be in the Southern Mediterranean. It was warm enough on the surface but extremely cold at the depths to which the men were required to dive.

The minimum weight allowed per fish was one pound. All fish were valid except shellfish, rays, and sunfish. Each fish was valued at 250 points to start, plus 1 point for each gram of weight. It was apparent from the surveys long

before the competition, that the contest would be for the large groupers, of from 20 to 45 pounds. The groupers were at depths from 60' to 90'. Above 60' there were only a few small fish, and they were hard to catch. The groupers were not only in very deep caves, but they were extremely difficult to dislodge from their lairs. Del Monico, of the U.S. team, spent an hour and a half getting his biggest one.

The six hours seemed to pass amazingly fast. At four o'clock the competition ended, and the many boats started the return trip to Malieha Bay, where the fish were to be weighed. The rumors flew thick and fast and the air was charged with excitement. Thousands of people surrounded the weighing area—some of whom had waited since the night before, camping on the hillside nearby. They cheered wildly when the divers mounted the platform with their big fish. Finally the great news was announced—the winner of the 1959 World Spearfishing Championship—Terry Lentz, USA!

It is true that it is invariably the best divers who win spearfishing competitions, though a certain amount of luck is involved which is the deciding factor. But in the case of Terry Lentz it was as the Europeans, and those divers who know Terry, who saw him dive and watched him spearfishing, declared, "Terry won the competition because he was the best of us all!"

(Continued next page)

Personality Spotlight

By CONNIE JOHNSON

UNDERWATER SPEARFISHING WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP

(Championnat de Monde de Chasse
Sous-Marine)

Malta — 1959

Individual Placement

Place—Diver—Nation	Points
1—Terry Lentz, U.S.A.	53.050
2—Bernardo Marti, Spain	48.050
3—Claudio Ripa, Italy	46.650
4—Don Del Monico, U.S.A.	41.000
5—Hermann Bruno, Brasil	35.650
6—Jose Noguera Balat, Spain	27.950
7—Ennio Falco, Italy	23.300
8—Mateo Dolc, Spain	23.050
9—Ruggero Jannuzzi, Italy	22.050
10—Francis Illy, France	21.600
11—Ulfrid Pirotta, Malta	21.100
12—Borges Joao, Brasil	20.900
13—Decesaef Micallef, Malta	20.450
14—J. Vidalia, Greece	24.600
15—Rudolf Gygi, Switzerland	24.450
16—Abel Gasio, Brasil	22.100
17—Borges Arnaldo, Brasil	22.100
18—Jules Corman, France	21.250
19—Alessandro Olaky, Italy	20.900
20—Eduard Zele, Yugoslavia	19.450
21—Kolendic Stakula, Yugoslavia	17.600
22—Ben Cropp, Australia	17.400
23—Michel Cini, Tunisia	17.000
24—Del Wren, U.S.A.	15.900
25—Eddie Falson, Malta	13.100
26—L. Menghi, Libya	12.850
27—Tony Boston, England	11.850
28—Tony Ellul Mercer, Malta	11.600
29—Paul Damman, U.S.A.	11.050
30—Jan Angelopoulos, Greece	10.700
31—Gerard Guignet, Monaco	9.100
32—D'Ambra, France	8.700
33—Eduardo Battaglia, Libya	8.200
34—R. T. S. Schoemaker, Holland	7.500
35—Jean Sabaton, France	7.300
36—L. Sartori, Libya	7.050
37—Rene Versier, Morocco	7.000
38—G. Sciadopoulos, Greece	6.300
39—Baynham M. Derrick, England	6.050
40—Lauren Lamberti, Monaco	6.000
41—Bernard Krusen, Holland	5.350
42—Braga, Portugal	4.500
43—Andre Benedetti, Monaco	4.250
44—Gil, Portugal	4.200
45—Aslanidis, Greece	3.700
46—Valls Rosendo, Spain	3.700
47—T. Bresh, Tripoli	2.750
48—Georges Brilewski, Morocco	2.600
49—Pierre Vuolo, Morocco	2.300
50—H. Wening, Switzerland	2.250
51—Zvanimis Balenovic, Yugoslavia	2.200
52—Frans Dohler, W. Germany	2.100
53—D. Pontraln, Belgium	1.900
54—Prieta da Silva, Portugal	1.800
55—A. Starflinger, W. Germany	1.800
56—Sgt. Jack Wecker, Switzerland	1.550
57—J. Mahlen, Belgium	1.400
58—J. Bock, Holland	1.100
59—Goldstein, Belgium	1.050
60—Roland Duguen, Morocco	1.050
61—Louis Carnero, Tunisia	1.000
62—Sgt. Jack Wright, England	.900
63—Ramalhete, Portugal	.850
64—Rozidar Medur, Yugoslavia	.800

NATION PLACEMENTS

First place, SPAIN—179 points: Bernardo Marti, Jose Noguera Balat, Mateo Dolc.	Second place, ITALY—176 points: Claudio Ripa, Ennio Falco, Ruggero Jannuzzi.
Third place, U. S. A.—166 points: Terry Lentz, Don Del Monico, Del Wren.	Fourth place, BRAZIL—162 points: Hermann Bruno, Borges Joao, Abel Gasio.
Fifth place, MALTA—146 points: Ulfrid Pirotta, Decesaef Vincent Micallef, Eddie Falson.	Sixth place, FRANCE—135 points: Francis Illy, Jules Corman, D'Ambra.
Seventh place, GREECE—113 points: J. Vidalia, Jan Angelopoulos, G. Sciadopoulos.	Eighth place, YUGOSLAVIA—103 points: Eduard Zele, Kolendic Stakula, Zvanimis Balenovic.
Ninth place, LIBYA—100 points: L. Menghi, Edoardo Battaglia, L. Sartori.	Tenth place, MONACO—81 points: Gerard Guignet, Lauren Lamberti, Andre Benedetti.
Eleventh place, SWITZERLAND—74 points: Rudolf Gygi, H. Wening, Sgt. Jack Wecker.	Twelfth place, ENGLAND—67 points: Tony Boston, Maj. Baynham Derrick, Sgt. Jack Wright.
Thirteenth place, HOLLAND—62 points: R. T. S. Schoemaker, Bernard Krusen, J. Bock.	Fourteenth place, MOROCCO—61 points: Rene Versier, Georges Brilewski, Pierre Vuolo.
Fifteenth place, PORTUGAL—46 points: Braga, Gil, Silva da Prieta.	Sixteenth place, TUNISIA—46 points: Michel Cini, Louis Carnero.
Seventeenth place, AUSTRALIA—43 points: Ben Cropp.	Eighteenth place, BELGIUM—26 points: D. Pontraln, J. Mahlen, Goldstein.
Nineteenth place, W. GERMANY—23 points: Frans Dohler, A. Starflinger.	

TERRY LENTZ

WHAT could be more apropos with this World Championship-themed issue of SDM than to feature Terry Lentz, champion spearfisherman of the world, as our personality spotlight.

Terry's outstanding performance at Malta won for him and the United States world-wide recognition. The third place team slot in the international contest was captured by the U.S. team of Del Wren, Don Del Monico, Paul Damman and Terry Lentz.

A member of the Long Beach Neptunes, Terry took his first dip into the underwater realm of King Neptune on St. Valentine's Day, 1954 . . . and discovered an undying love for diving. The lack of an exposure suit in the cold February waters of the Pacific didn't dampen his enthusiasm. As he explained, "everything was so new and exciting I just had to see more. Also I've gone fishing with my dad since I was five years old and this was the perfect way to fish."

The slender 22-year-old diver, holding the world's top diving honors, always wears a 3/16" full wet suit when diving, both summer and winter. While in Malta the U.S. team coach, Jim Christensen, was concerned over the two Florida team members (accustomed to tropical waters) in the cold Mediterranean. However, they hopped overboard in thin exposure jackets while Terry shivered in his full suit.

The warm waters of the Bahamas with their abundance of fish life and exceptional clarity are Terry's favorite diving area. Adding Mediterranean and Florida diving to his experience just this year, with the Nationals and World Championship, he has done most of his diving off Californian and Mexican coasts.

Relatively a newcomer to the competitive spearfishing world, Terry entered competitions in 1957 as a member of the Cormorants Diving Club. Diving with the Cormorants again in 1958, the team placed third in west coast eliminations and finals. This year he teamed up with Long Beach Neptunes' Bob Manicki and Bob Weaver to take first place in the SPAAU eliminations, finals and the Nationals in Miami. His rise to top spearman of the world was accomplished in a brief three years.

A senior at Long Beach State College, majoring in physical education, he plans to go on for his Master's Degree. After school is still too long-range thinking, but he has secret hopes for making diving his career. With such an active interest in the sport he feels that he would be tremendously happy working in the same field.

Favored equipment varies with Terry. He uses Cressi fins and Duck Feet depending upon the situation, and alternates between the Panoramic and Pinocchio masks. His preferences in spearguns are spring and rubber-powered ones.

A television travelogue with underwater sequences was made of the young Monterey Park, California, diver while he was in Malta. The movie, with both English and Italian dialogue will be released in Europe around the first of the year. The filming was in the competition area following the Championships. Terry said he fished for six hours a day for six days and didn't get anything over four pounds, so the last day they moved the location away from the Championship area and he got two fish about 15-20 pounds.

Terry hopes to pursue other facets of skin diving, such as underwater photography, but right now it's competitive diving for him, especially since he returns to the World Championship in 1960 as defending champion. ➤

THE DIVE AND THE FISH THAT BROUGHT THE INDIVIDUAL CHAMPIONSHIP TO THE U.S.A.

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World Champion Terry Lentz is shown here in pictorial sequences making the seventy-five foot dive for the fish that brought his total points up to 53,050. Terry had a total of twelve fish at the weigh-in.



SEA STORIES FROM MORGAN

Adventures Under The High Seas

Dear Jim and Chuck,

The lights of La Paz are blinking on, and here and there golden windows reflect the last rays of the setting sun. The heat of the day has passed, leaving a warm, pleasant breeze. I am sitting, shirtless, on the afterdeck of the schooner "Nordlys (Northern Lights), leisurely writing letters to my friends. Somewhere ashore a band is playing a cha-cha for the tourists, and I can see another marlin being hung on the fish rack next to the pier. Several young ladies are having their evening walk under the palms that rim the beach, but I will finish this letter before I go ashore. Now the sun is touching the horizon, filling the western sky with flowing reds and oranges that will soon flee before the tropical night. The only thing wrong with the setting is this patch of cotton covering my right eye. But—I am getting ahead of myself.

PART ONE DIVERS' ISLAND

WITH sails filled and working the big schooner Nordlys boiled along toward the south. A few clouds dotted the sky, reminders of the smoggy overcast we were leaving behind in Southern California. An albatross followed along our wake, watchful for any edible tidbits we might throw over. Forward, owner Walter Johnson and his

family were relaxing in the sun. Captain McDade, our skipper, Eddie Lucas, a Tahitian friend, and I stood by the wheel talking on a favorite subject: Tahiti. Cap McDade is a big man and his large hands swept through the air as he described one of his fabulous evenings in Papeete. His hat, a reminder of his fighter pilot days, sat low over his eyes, and the well-trimmed beard waggled up and down, helping his arms and voice tell the story.

Such was the start of another voyage, another diving adventure. A good ship under my feet, my diving launch on deck, full lung bottles, loaded cameras, and a fair wind pushing us toward one of the greatest diving areas of the world.

Late one afternoon we dropped anchor at Cedros Island, a Mexican possession located a few hundred miles south of the U.S. border. I had visited the island several years before, and knew of the commercial abalone diving operation there. We launched my boat from the Nordlys, and Eddie Lucas and I visited one of the "mother" boats of their abalone fleet.

The mother boat was a large U.S. war surplus boat, perhaps two hundred feet in length. Fifteen divers and about fifty crewmen live aboard this vessel. During the day, the men work from a fleet of small diving launches about eighteen feet long.

As we pulled alongside the large boat, the entire crew gathered at the railing; visitors are rare here. I saw an old diving friend, Chore Luceno, and we exchanged greetings. The divers were very

friendly and were glad to show us through their ship. All the quarters were very clean and neat. After a cup of good Mexican coffee, we made arrangements to dive with their fleet the next morning. We water skied back to the Nordlys, and I spent the evening checking the underwater cameras.

A small village surrounds the cannery on the south end of Cedros. Here live the divers and their families as well as the crewmen and the other fishermen of the cannery's fleet. The divers usually work ten days, living in the mother boat, then spend five days in the village. Each day a "pickup" boat transfers the abalone to the cannery for processing. Most of the meat is flown to the United States, but some is dried and sent to the orient.

The next morning, Epifanio Jordan Conocido, a diver, standing in his living skiff just off the Nordleys, shouted for me to hurry, that the sun was nearly up and it was time to be diving. I staggered out of my bunk and blinked my eyes in disbelief. Before I was really awake, my gear was loaded and the small gasoline engine was chugging away as we headed for deep water. I threw a handful of salt water on my face, got my head in operation, and looked the boat over. It was about eighteen feet in length and six feet wide. The bottom was flat and a small gasoline engine squatted in its center. Belts on the forward end of the engine ran to a compressor, and from the rear a shaft disappeared through the hull to the propeller. A smiling fellow guided the boat with a long oar that passed through a lock on the transom. Each boat has a diver and three tenders. While one tender steers to the diving grounds, the other two are dressing the diver. The canvas suit is pulled on over the long woolen underwear. Then the breastplate is bolted in place. Just as the diving grounds are reached, the weights are added (in addition to the weighted shoes). The compressor is turned on, and the tenders place the helmet (Japanese type) on the diver. The ladder is lowered and the diver carefully eases his bulk over the side. There is a momentary adjustment of buoyancy, then down he goes.

By then I had on my wet suit and lung, so I jumped in after him with my underwater camera. It felt good to be in the water. I could feel the trickle of water filling the air spaces of my suit. The familiar sound of air rasping by the valves of the lung came with each intake of breath, and the roar of the exhalation bubbles greeted my ears. With the feeling of pressure, I pushed against my nose with a finger, and the pop of equalization changed the tone of my hearing, letting me know that all was well. Down, down, I followed the hard-hat diver to the ninety-foot bottom.

Jordan pries shell fish from the rocks.



Here on the bottom there was no language barrier.

First I had to check the camera case for leaks—no water inside, good—then I began a series of still pictures. The water was somewhat turbid, visibility down to about twenty feet. I was using verichrome pan film, setting the camera at f8, 1/100 sec. Artificial light was provided by setting off two General Electric M-5 clear flash bulbs. I found it necessary to use two bulbs to avoid a "hot" spot in the wide-angle photos of this camera, a super-wide Hasselblad.

I found an interesting thing in our underwater studio as we set up for the photos. Here on the bottom there was no problem with communication, no language barriers. Each of us understood what the other wanted, and the job was done in a short time. Jordan ran across the bottom, prying the shellfish from the rocks, sacking them, and when the sack was full, a signal on the line brought an empty sack, the full one disappearing toward the surface. A large school of sheepshead, kelp bass, and several other varieties of fish followed the diver about, eager to dash in for any abalone he might drop. I signaled that the camera was out of film and swam to the surface.

While I was changing film, I watched the surface operation. The first man was using two long oars, rowing to keep above the diver. The second man was tending the hose and bag line, pulling full sacks of abalone to the surface. The third tender was dumping the sacks on deck, shucking the meat from the shells, and tossing the empty shells back into the water. The meat is placed in gunny

sacks to be picked up by another tender later in the day.

When the wind or current becomes too strong for the oarsman, he uses the boat's engine to help catch up. The engine is already running to supply power for the compressor. A clutch arrangement has the shaft disconnected from the engine. A few inches below the hull the shaft has a universal joint that allows the propeller to be raised above the water, behind the transom, when not in motion. This keeps the boat from being held back by the heavy kelp that surrounds Cedros. At times the oarsman would drop the prop into the water, engage the clutch, power ahead, then disengage and go back to rowing.

The divers are the elite of the island. Aboard the mother boats they have separate quarters and galley. Everything is done for their comfort and well-being. Ashore they live with their families in pleasant little homes that are equipped with modern refrigerators, radios, stoves, and other conveniences. Once or twice each year they vacation by flying to La Paz, or some other resort city. All in all, it is a good life, a diver's life.

In a few days we grew restless, so when a fair wind came whistling over the island the shout of "Hoist the main!" set us to work. Eddie Lucas and I heaved down on the halyard, watching the mains'l flutter awake and stretch up the mast. When the two of us could pull no higher, the line was passed three turns around a winch, Eddie cranking as I tailed. Soon, the main

stays'l and fore stays'l were set, the three sails letting the wind flow by them, anxiously waiting for the anchor to come up. Fred Bonde, a young man helping the crew, stacked the chain below as the windlass pulled it up through the hawseholes. I stood on the bobstay, guiding the anchor into place. The Nordlys was free now and began to fall off; the sails filled, and we silently moved by the divers' boat. "Adios, Amigos!" Arms raised in farewell, then Cedros fell behind. We set the jib and fisherman, the wind picked up, and the Nordlys settled into the course that would take us to the Sea of Cortez.

* * *

I hate to break in here, Jim and Chuck, but Captain McDade just came up from below and suggested a "cruise" through town. There is a little bar where a man can sit with a cold beer and do some serious thinking while droplets of water form and run down the amber glass of the bottle. Where a sailor can talk of distant seas, and a diver can dream of giant fish swimming in crystalline waters. The full tropical night is now with us, a narrow, crescent moon is pushing back a few of the bright stars. We may take a walk under those palms along the beach! I will send another letter telling you of the accident I had while diving for turtles in the Sea of Cortez.

A friend,

Bar Morgan

REPRINTS FROM SDM's EXCITING PAST

Autobiography of a Skin Diver

In the summer of 1938, with inadequate equipment, but in a sea alive with fish, I began the practice of this sport.

I was living then in Istria, and every day during the summer months I made a practice of taking a plunge in the sea. Following a usual swim I was overcome by lassitude. But I finally devised a manner of enjoying more the marvelous element of the sea; I was able, with an old pair of motorcycle goggles and a rubber tube, to keep my face underwater and to breathe. I remember that on a Sunday in July, at seven in the morning, I was diving near Porto Albona (somewhere between Pola and Fiume), and I wanted to discard that simple equipment. For amid scenery very much in technicolor I discovered a fantastic panorama which could have been a part of a thousand and one nights, and which held me spellbound. I saw forests, rock castles, mountains, sandy deserts, green valleys, gardens in bloom, and in perfect harmony moving through the water were dozens of brightly colored fish which weren't at all frightened by my presence. For a moment I thought it was a dream, but the water, which was yet rather cold, recalled me to reality.

My instinct of the fisherman overcame that of the poet, and in a few minutes I evolved a method of capturing those most beautiful "branzini" which despoiled themselves around me.

I returned to shore and hurried home. I awoke my wife and asked her where I could find the old umbrella, because I thought it would be useful for capturing some big fish. Instead of answering me as I expected, her eyes opened wide in amazement and she began to laugh, saying, "He's gone nuts, he wants to catch fish with an umbrella", and thereon started laughing so hard that it lasted for some time. I ran to the attic and found the umbrella. Tearing off the cloth, I took the longest rib and fashioned it into a bow. With the other smaller ones I made some darts which I sharpened with a file. My wife continued laughing for some time.

All this had taken over an hour and I could not believe that the "branzini" were still there waiting for me. I assumed that they were off chasing the smaller fish, and procuring their daily food.

Still with the motorcycle goggles, which not being mounted in the same plane, caused me to see double, with the rubber hose held straight by a support, with a clothespin closing my nostrils, and with the bow in my left hand and the darts in my right, I dived into the

By
GUIDO
GARIBALDI

GUIDO GARIBALDI displays a Cernia caught at a depth of 26 meters off the island of Monte Cristo. Cernia weighed 39 kilograms.

water and cautiously tried to come close to the fish. Selecting a large one, I released a dart on one of the "branzini" weighing about three kilograms. With joy I saw that the dart penetrated that big fish and I saw it emerge from the other side. But my joy was short-lived for the big fish disappeared rapidly with the dart from my umbrella stuck in its belly. It was a disappointing delusion. However, I still had the other two darts, and the fish, more curious than alarmed, seemed to be interested in my weapons. When I saw one big enough come close to me with his snout I let one of the darts go between his eyes from a distance of perhaps 30 centimeters. This fish, with his brain pierced, stood still. Enthused by my success and wanting to increase my catch, I let another dart go. But this time, although I had aimed at the head of the victim, the dart disappeared, stuck in the body of the fish, which dived rapidly to the bottom.

In the meantime, on the shore had gathered a group of curious onlookers. When they saw me come out of the water with that large fish,

there arose a cry filled with wonder. However, some fishermen in the group expressed the opinion that I had certainly found that fish dead at the bottom of the sea. But a small boy drew their attention and mine to something struggling in the water about 60 meters from the shore. It was my first catch in its death throes. A few strokes brought me to it, and taking it between the gills with two fingers, I drew it to shore and threw it hard on the sand under the eyes of the marvelling fishermen. Shortly after the third victim also was seen to emerge a little farther away than the first one. The small boy went in a boat to recover it. It still had the dart stuck in it.

Triumphantly holding the three victims, and followed by a queue of people, I returned home. My wife saw me from the window and guessed that the old umbrella had won its last battle.

After this first triumph I bought for myself a regular mask and gun, and with them I hunted the whole coast between Pola and Fiume. The only sub in that locality, for six



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consecutive seasons I hunted in a sea which was always clear and filled with game.

In my opinion the best place to fish either for quantity of fish or for weight of catch is the Island of Elba, and right between Point Nera and Point Calamita.

My record fish is a Cernia (merou) weighing 39 Kilograms caught near the Island of Monte Cristo.

My preferred equipment is a very small mask which holds only the minimum of air, a mouthpiece and tube without any bends or valves to obstruct it, normal fins, but not too light, a "Champion" gun equipped with two elastic bowstrings—a very short one for hunting Cernia, and a long one with a float attached for hunting larger fish; also a knife well-sharpened, a belt with some lead weights, and a net fastened to my waist. I do not use any device for closing my nostrils, which I advise anyone not to use when they intend to go to great depths.

The best fishermen in the absolute sense are the Neapolitans: Falco, Bucher and Novelli, because they are the only ones who, to this date, have reached depths of 40 meters without the aid of the breathing apparatus. That is apnea or free diving. And in one day they can fish at the bottom from 25 to 30 meters.

Only twice have I seen sharks in the Mediterranean and they were only middle-sized. I never had a fight with one because I always returned to the surface and the boat as rapidly as possible and they disappeared in the water.

In 1947 I had a most interesting adventure. The city of Livorno had been an American port of debarkation, and in the confusion following the war, amid the ruins, there appeared in the streets of the city foreign soldiers, adventurers, and fast businessmen of every type. Among these was a certain Marchesi who used to tell the story of how he had been a prisoner of war together with a friend of the ex-fascist minister Buffarini-Guido, who was later shot by the Germans in Verona. This ex-minister had confided to the friend of Marchesi, before his death, the place where he had hidden a strong iron box filled with gold coins and important documents, jewelry and other precious items. The hidden locality was indicated as the bottom of the sea to the south of Livorno. It was never known for what reason this individual told a story which ultimately proved to be false. But the authorities at that time believed it, and for months and months they employed a considerable sum of money, divers, motorboats, and many other means without ever finding anything.

In the summer of 1948 I was living in that area. One day after I had been hunting for about an hour, while following a magnificent "Orata", I saw half hidden at the foot of a rock and nearly covered with sand, an iron box, almost covered with algae. I was immediately aroused and looking about I could judge it to be about 200 meters from the place which had been called the "Buffarini Treasure." I concluded that it must be just that, and to be assured of the fact, I started removing things from around the box and I tried to move it by grasping the handles which were barely visible. But it was too heavy. It would be necessary to dig around to free it from the sand in which it had sunk. I was certain that it was a strong metal box, and even if it was not the box indicated by Marchesi, it was so heavy and well-hidden that it certainly must contain something valuable.

I returned to shore. I wasn't thinking any

more about fish but what to do. To reveal the discovery? But if I was wrong, what kind of a figure would I have cut? But on the other hand, if it really was that which I thought it was I certainly would not gain anything because Marchesi and the authorities would have contested my rights. "What one finds in the sea belongs to him," say the old seawolves, and I decided to apply this law of the sea. In any case I could do nothing alone, so I had to find a friend who would be willing to help me in the recovery of the treasure.

I found this friend and also the equipment which was needed. The friend accepted all my conditions. But in order to recover this treasure it was necessary to employ a "third man"; this was my good friend Cesare, the skipper. And so the great expedition was organized to start the next day.

At three in the afternoon, starting the motor, we weighed anchor. With prudence and care we started in an opposite direction from our goal in case someone should follow us. After a couple of miles we changed direction and pointed directly toward our desired goal. Naturally we were all excited, and many were the questions we asked one another. What was really in that metal box? Documents of the fascist regime? Who would be interested in them? What was their probable value? Would it be necessary to take them to Switzerland? But what if it was full of gold pieces? With these thoughts we became more excited and fascinated by that iron box resting under five meters of water at the bottom of the sea. As soon as we arrived at the spot I dove in and asked that the anchor be lowered about a meter from the treasure. Cesare, wanting to assure himself, put on a mask and came down to hold one of the handles of the box, and both of us tried to move it. But it was all in vain. Cesare, all excited, returned to the surface crying, "You're right, it is truly a treasure, and it must be full."

Immediately we started salvaging operations. We lowered a rope and I passed it around one of the handles. But when we tried to lift it the rope slipped off. I tried wrapping the rope several times around the handle and tying it securely. Finally, after much heaving, we felt the box moving and freeing itself from the sand. I myself was in the boat to help my companions. We all cried, "It's coming, it's coming." Then in my excitement I dove into the water to see what was coming up. You can never imagine what depression I felt. That cursed strong box was not a box at all but only the shell of a wheelbarrow used by construction gangs in building roads, which had been thrown in the sea and had landed upside down in the sand. It had a riveted bottom with two side handles which were grasped by the workers when dumping the paving material.

It was a real trick of the devil which had placed that wheelbarrow in that spot because the nearest road was several miles away, and it had fallen in the sand in such a manner that the handles were barely visible. For many years it had been at the bottom of the sea and in such a position as to make a poor fish hunter believe that he had found a treasure, the treasure that had been so famous in those days.

In the dark of the night and discouraged by our delusion, we swore to each other never to tell this adventure in "treasure hunting" to anyone.

Recently while diving in the waters of the Gulf of Mexico I contracted a condition of the skin which caused swelling, inflammation, wheals, and stinging pain. Can you tell me what caused this action?

This is an allergic reaction of the skin to a toxin liberated by the nematocysts or "stinging cells" of the tiny polyps that form coral growth.

If a diver finds gold, silver, or any other valuable relic, does it belong to the finder or the government? Is there any penalty for concealment?

Any diver may keep any treasure found on the ocean floor if all previous owners or the heirs of the vessels in which the treasure sank are no longer in the established business of shipping. Any diver may, however, salvage whatever lies below the surface and can expect at least a twenty per cent salvor's fee. If the owners of the salvaged material refuse to pay this fee an admiralty court will stand in defense of the diver's rights.

Recently I tried to make a full-face mask diving outfit, but, even with a good compressor, I failed to get enough air at rather shallow depths. Then I was told I should have a breathing bag. Is this true and, if so, why?

The full-face mask outfits were invented for shallow water diving and are incomplete and unsafe without the use of a breathing bag. Being operated by a low output low pressure compressor, a flexible breathing bag is necessary to give the diver sufficient air supply and prevent apnea and face squeeze. Some divers, however, claim the breathing bag is a CO₂ trap, although the amount of CO₂ is negligible, as the full-face mask should be used only in shallow water.

I should like to know just how good a swimmer one must be to become an efficient skin diver?

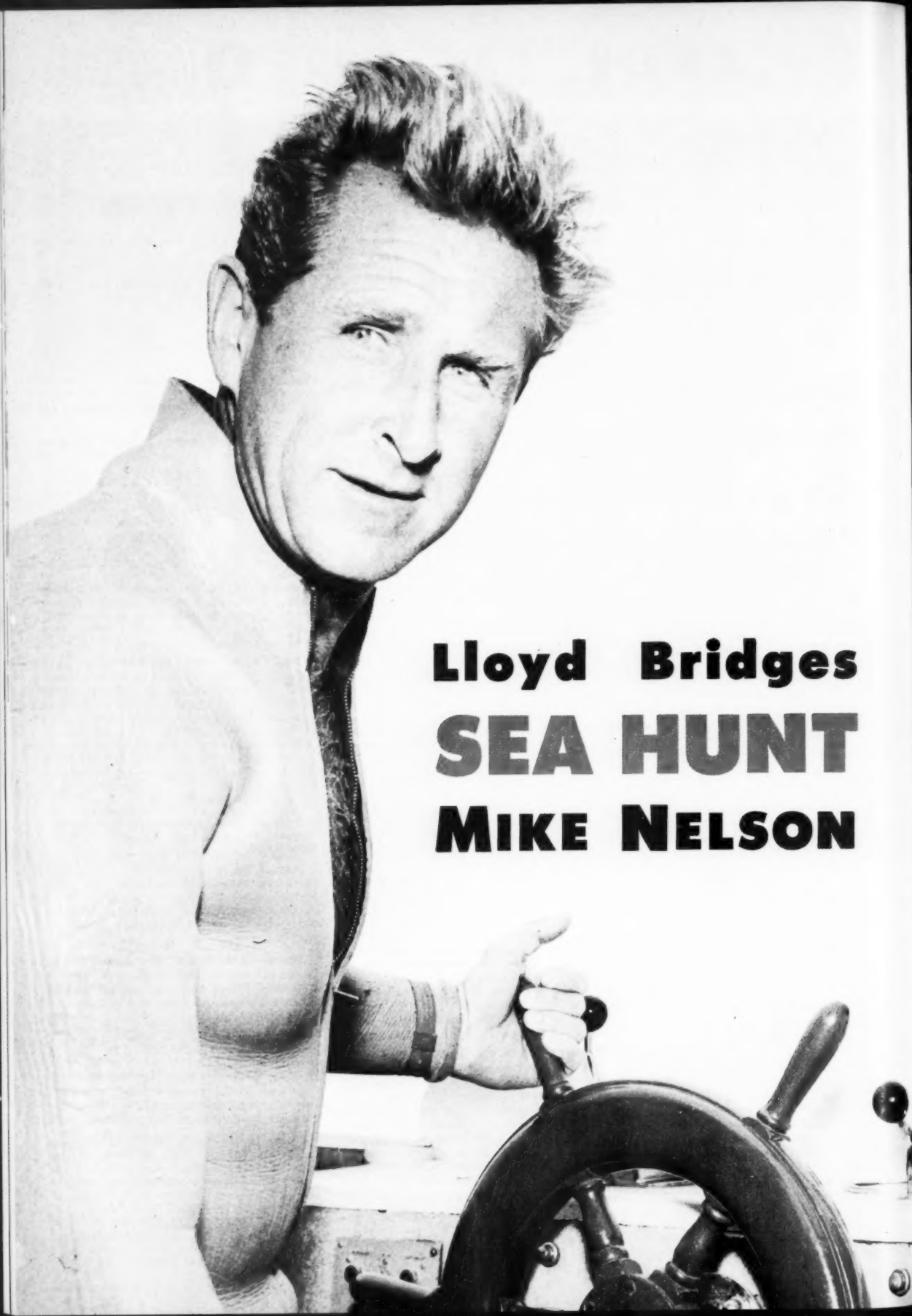
Anyone interested in becoming a skin diver should be capable of passing a senior life-saving course. This enables the diver always to be in command of himself and yet have the ability to assist a buddy diver should he need it.

Due to all the recent shark incidents I am forced to believe that sharks will bite, in spite of the fact that some biologists think otherwise. What can I use as a repellent?

Please, don't be too hard on the marine biologists as their work is difficult and never ending, and they have discovered that a preparation known as "copper acetate" is an effective shark repellent. This repellent has been used by the armed services for a number of years most successfully. It is the chemical breakdown of decayed shark meat.

I live in the tropic zone and the heat causes my fins and mask to be a constant mass of sticky rubber, even though I use powder on them regularly. Can this be helped?

The best known preservative for rubber in all climates is silicone. Silicone lubricates and prevents drying out of rubber, especially the new types of neoprene products.



Lloyd Bridges
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MIKE NELSON

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"If I'm the soggiest star in television," says Lloyd Bridges, "I'm also the happiest!" Bridges is the star of ZIV's exciting series, "Sea Hunt," the story of Mike Nelson, an ex-Navy frogman who will go anywhere, underwater . . . for a fee!

"I've never been as happy in a role in my life," says Bridges, whose naturally blonde hair has been bleached almost platinum by the ocean sun and wind. A skilled swimmer in his own right, Lloyd spent long hours before the show went into production working with the technical advisor, Jon Lindbergh, and diver-actress Zale Parry, considered to be one of the top female skin divers in the world. Together, the three of them roamed the ocean floor along the Pacific Coast, giving Bridges plenty of time to feel at home underwater in his scuba outfit.

Since much of the show takes place beneath the sea, it was imperative that the actor be completely at home in this strange environment. How successful he has been in this direction is indicated in the tacit approval of champion Zale Parry. "Lloyd's, become good enough," said Zale, "to trust him as my partner any time I was diving on a job . . . and that's something I will say about few people!"

Termed by producer Ivan Tors "their most ambitious project to date," ZIV Television Programs Inc. has sent a full crew plus assorted actors around the world to shoot underwater footage with Bridges for their "Sea Hunt" series.

Produced by Tors with associate producer-director John Florea, "Sea Hunt" is a departure from television practices which employ minimal locationing, fixed crews and prewritten stories. "It is not too difficult to duplicate a street set in-

side a sound stage, but underwater scenery changes so radically in each part of the world it is impossible for anyone to 'fake' it in a studio tank."

Tors, who produced 78 episodes of Science-Fiction Theater before "moving on" to "Sea Hunt," thinks this series is equally as flexible in potential. "As Mike Nelson, an ex-Navy frogman who is willing to go anywhere and do anything . . . for a fee, Lloyd Bridges fills the character needs splendidly. He isn't limited to ocean work only. Shows have him engaged in inland waters such as lakes, rescues from flooded caves, dams, and almost anywhere his unique talents are needed.

"The real-life counterpart of our hero is technical advisor on the series, Jon Lindbergh. Jon is part owner of an organization in San Diego which provides us with much valuable information on tides, diving sites and underwater turbu-

lence, among other things, thus enabling us to keep to our claim of accuracy and authenticity."

Another aid to these claims is veteran underwater cameraman Lamar Boren, whose spectacular underwater photography on "The Old Man and The Sea" will always be remembered.

"Sea Hunt" appears on the screens of the nation's television audiences through 158 stations and through the sponsorship of over fifteen firms. The underwater program is also a great favorite in other countries. Mike Nelson is well known throughout Mexico, Japan, Australia, England, the state of Hawaii and several other countries.

Mike Nelson, the singular star of the show, has appeared in every underwater and topside situation imaginable, however each week brings a new adventure for Mike and his underwater fans. Some

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"Mike" and Zale Parry set up a cozy situation for the camera while on location for *Sea Hunt*. Zale, who has appeared in many of the *Sea Hunt* programs, and "Mike" relax by skin diving when not in front of the camera.



Lloyd Bridges signs autograph for five year old Jan Contois as interviewer Paul Tzimoulis looks on. Jan's daddy is vice-president of the Nutmeg Diving Club and both watch *Sea Hunt* every week along with the rest of the family.

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. . . Mike Nelson attempts to save two archaeologists from death in a secret Mayan treasure cave . . . is highjacked to help two narcotic peddlers in a slick dope smuggling scheme . . . finds a water skier murdered and meets the killer in a fierce underwater fight . . . helps avert a daring underwater prison break from Alcatraz Island . . . accepts the challenge of a beautiful but reckless swimmer in an underwater race to Catalina Island.

Of course there have been many more situations, all of them, like these listed, have also been solved and corrected by the one and only underwater T.V. hero —MIKE NELSON!

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number one skin diving hero, actually a competent diver or just another Hollywood manifestation?

A two hour interview with this amazing star left me with an entirely new attitude and opinion of the skin diver's answer to Hopalong Cassidy. Frankly, I was quite surprised when I asked for and was granted an interview with Lloyd since he was spending a most hectic week in Connecticut with personal appearances, rehearsals, T.V., radio and press interviews, as well as receiving celebrities from New York and Boston. My first meeting with him was a most enjoyable experience and I discovered him to be a soft spoken, well mannered, patient and most co-operative gentleman. Lloyd is quite sensitive to public opinion and takes a keen interest in exchange of personal diving experiences.

When did you start skin diving? Approximately two years ago with the start of the "Sea Hunt" series.

Do you belong to a diving club? I've been made an honorary member of many but I simply don't have the time to become active in a local club. *Do you do much skin diving aside from "Sea Hunt"?* Yes, when I have time (which isn't too often), I go out with Courtney Brown and several other friends. *Does any of your family dive?* Yes, my two sons, Beau, 17, and Jeff, 9. They both take to the water like fish.

Do you smoke? No. As a matter of

fact, I refused a contract with a prominent cigarette firm because of this. *Where is "Sea Hunt" filmed?* Several locations: Catalina Island, Calif., Silver Springs, Florida, Marineland, Calif., Nassau, Grand Bahamas, and this trip will be Jamaica. *Did you expect "Sea Hunt" to become such a hit when you started?* I had an idea that it might because it was something new and different.

How deep have you been? Seventy-five or eighty feet. There really is no need to go deeper. All of our photography is done in relatively shallow water due to the lighting problem. *Approximately how many hours have you spent underwater?* This is a difficult one to answer. I average four hours underwater per day and it takes a week to do the underwater scenes for two shows. This would add up to about 1250 hours. *I assume then you do all your own diving for "Sea Hunt"?* About 85% of it.

Have you ever been in danger while underwater? No, not really. Every precaution possible is taken to insure the safety of the people involved. Once while on location at Silver Springs, I ran out of air at 55 feet and had to buddy breathe with another diver. *How do you feel about barracuda?* They never seem to bother us any but do create a nuisance when they become background in a scene which does not call for it. In one instance, a 'cuda swam in front of

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How about shark? Shark, of course, are known to be unpredictable but we have found that the number of boats and divers we have working in the water seems to frighten the shark away. I recall one scene where I was making a jump from a helicopter, and the pilot spotted a circling fin below. He informed me of it and we waited several minutes until the shark moved out of our way and then I made the jump. Later, he told me that the shark hightailed out of the area the moment I hit the water.

Which "Sea Hunt" story do you consider your favorite? I like the one about the jet pilot who crashes into the sea and I rescue him from the cockpit. *Do you ever get bored with this underwater job?* Never. This is the most exciting and fascinating part I've ever played. *Do you like to spearfish?* No. I'd rather go down and observe the beautiful marine life and fish. I think underwater photography is far more exciting.

Do you get any ideas from real life skin diving adventures? Definitely. Almost all our stories stem from actual skin diving experiences. We are always interested in talking to skin divers because we learn a great deal this way and pick up many ideas for new plots. *Why are there so many inaccuracies and discrepancies in these "Sea Hunt" stories; they raise howls from the skin divers.* I knew we would come around to this sooner or later and I'd like to give you the real answer to this controversial topic. First of all, the primary purpose of this program is purely entertainment.

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My suggestion to any diver who is skeptical of Lloyd Bridges alias "Mike Nelson" or has a bone to pick, is to meet him and talk with him. I guarantee you will come away with a different outlook!

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Cal asked Lloyd whether he was between filming or on vacation. Lloyd answered that he was at present between series, and that within a few weeks he would begin on his third "Sea Hunt" year which will be filmed in Jamaica.

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(Continued from Previous Page)
he didn't get two feet before he was mobbed by the spectators.

We were highly impressed with Lloyd, and relieved to discover that he wasn't the "Hollywood type," but actually a sincere, humble and friendly guy who likes talking to people. Here's hoping we have many more years of "Sea Hunt."

MIKE VISITS

RHODE ISLAND

By JOHN MCANIFF

One of the nation's outstanding personalities in the sport of skin diving was a visitor here in our fair state, and proper arrangements were hastily set up to welcome him and his lovely wife. Through the Rhode Island Council of Skin Diving Clubs Inc. and with the cooperation of the state of Rhode Island's Development Council, Mr. Lloyd "Mike Nelson" Bridges was entertained at a special luncheon in his honor.

The Rhode Island Council through its President, John J. McAniff, presented Mr. Bridges with an Honorary Membership in the Council and a beautiful bronze plaque signifying same was given to him to hang in the den of his new home in California. During the presentation Mr. McAniff stressed that the tremendous stimulus for the sport created by the television series of "Sea Hunt" has probably been one of the greatest factors in the tremendous growth of interest in America's fastest growing sport of skin diving. On hand for the presentation were various members of the Rhode Island Development Council staff including its new Director, Mr. Adolph Schmidt. Members of the R. I. Skin Diving Council in attendance included the secretary, Mrs. Ruth Hull, Council Delegate from The Sea Gals, R. I.'s only all girl Diving Club; Mrs. Edna Blakinton, and the entire membership of the state's newest diving club, The Little Rhody Skin Divers. The president of the Little Rhody Skin Divers presented Mr. Bridges with a charter membership in their newly organized club and Mr. Schmidt of the Development Council welcomed both Mr. and Mrs. Bridges with token gifts of R.I. Red Rooster jewelry pieces.

Mr. Bridges has been starring in a summer stock production of the famous musical "Guys and Dolls" as Sky Master-son and does an excellent job in this capacity, proving his tremendous versatility as an actor and showing a previously untried talent as a fine singer.

Mr. and Mrs. Bridges met again with Mr. and Mrs. McAniff after Friday

Rhode Island Council prexy John J. McAniff presents honorary membership plaque to Lloyd Bridges at special luncheon in Warwick. (Photo by R.I. Development Council.)



Frogman-adventurer Mike Nelson adjusts scuba equipment on location.

The rocky Palos Verdes, California, shoreline is one of popular locations for the ZIV television series. (right). "Mike" visits Laguna Sea Sports in Laguna Beach, Calif. during one of the programs. (Ed Lorr Photo)



evening's performance and plans were discussed for a dive on Saturday with Mr. McAniff. Unfortunately this was called off due to very bad weather and

a severe sore throat contracted by Lloyd from his oldest boy who had been suffering with the ailment since they arrived.



END OF A GROPER

By WALT C. DEAS

North Stradbroke Island lies nine miles off the coast of Queensland and twenty miles from Brisbane. It is 40 miles long and 11 miles wide and at the north end is Point Lookout, a haunt of giant fish and local spearfishermen.

Saturday, August 8, was a disappointing day for Bob Webb, as twice his gas gun had failed him as he aimed at groper near the 300-pound mark. He speared one groper using his rubber powered gun, but it broke the steel trace of the gun—they were just too powerful. So Bob fitted extra rubbers to his gun and renewed the steel trace.

Sunday found Bob again searching for the big fish. Diving from a surf ski at eight in the morning, the hulk of a giant groper was seen hanging motionless in the marine shadows of a rocky ledge. A sudden movement and the fish boiled up to have a look at this strange creature and suddenly found a shaft of stainless steel in his body. A surge of power and the battle began. He headed under a rocky ledge, and forty minutes and many dives later he was raised to the surface. When landed he tipped the scales at 323 pounds. A new Australian record.

The previous record was held by Tom Thomas of Surfers' Paradise with a weight of 287 pounds.

COURIER MAIL PHOTOGRAPH

DRIFTWOOD



Hello, you baughty characters . . . A very healthy mail indicates that you prefer to see this wretched page return to its original format—and no sooner screamed than done. If you would care to gaze morbidly at this lashing tide of mortal outcry crashing vainly against the staunch old jetty, I will somehow get a fire going under the coffeepot . . .

I have just read your magazine for the first time and, basically, I believe it is a fine book. However, I wonder at all the Togetherness—diving clubs . . . councils . . . it's more fun in a group . . . conform and all have suits . . . join, join, join. Who needs it? To me, one of the great pleasures of diving has always been the delicious solitude and *Alone-ness* that one can find few other places in this McCall's inspired, McCarthy sired world of group-thinking, group-doing. My job demands it, my family life demands it, and most of my social life demands it—but my diving *doesn't*. I say it's spinach, and I say the hell with it.

JIM HAYES,
New York City, N.Y.

You neurotic or something, Mac?

What is the correct pronunciation for your name? Is it like Ko-ler or like Collar?

ELAYNE MANNING
Enterprise, Alabama

No, it's more like Koomshaw.

Plodding off to the water every weekend with a group of male companions isn't *my* idea of a good dive. Why exclude nature's most desirable and vivacious creature? If there are any young female divers in my area who desire a male companion strictly for diving—look me up. I know what you're *thinking*, Kohler, but it isn't so.

HAL WOLFE
3327 North Kilbourne
Chicago, Illinois

Then how come we're both thinking alike?

Amen, like so be it, that those who cannot skin dive should not scuba dive. Here at Hawksbill we not infrequently have to pull out of the ocean a guest who learns only upon discovering that his scuba is useless, for some reason or other, that he cannot hold his breath long enough to reach the surface. A very large percentage of this type is scuba-instructed without being skin-instructed. It might not be totally worthless to remind the various agencies which give instruction in scuba diving that a scuba diver, when he runs out of air, is very *suddenly* a skin diver, not ideally prepared. And no amount of supervision by a host or buddy can compensate for meager training.

BEN BENJAMIN
Freeport,
Grand Bahama Island

You're so damned right.

You're always griping about not receiving enough pictures, letters, etc. Well, I'm writing and maybe I'll help satisfy your craving for mail. I enjoy your column so very much, I'm afraid your article is the first thing I turn to every month. I guess I don't agree with *everything* you write, but that's my right as it's yours to write what you think. Thank heaven my husband doesn't agree with you, as far as diving wives are concerned, because he's teaching me how to dive and I hope to get my own lung next year. Thanks for a fabulous column.

DORIS JEAN BOGDAN

Don't thank me. Thank the fabulous people whose twisted opinions created DRIFTWOOD in the first place.

Please send my condolences to Kohler for that column of his. When someone has to resort to contests to get people to read his page in an otherwise good magazine, they are SICK, SICK, SICK.

CHARLES H. BORNHAUSER
Glenbrook, Connecticut

You ought to do something about that stutter.

Uncle Sammy has transplanted me to an area which is far more frustrating to my fishy instincts than the Great Sahara Desert could ever hope to be. Here I am, desperately searching for a place to frolic beneath the waves as well as for stimulating companions with whom to pursue The Great Sport. So, big feller type Kohler, if you could stir but one stolid Virginian from his or her clandestine retreat long enough to direct one humble personage to the local diving mecca, mumbled thanks will be forthcoming. Keep up the bad work.

R. A. McALLISTER
US 56298874
Hq & Hq Co. 3rd Bn.
USAECR
Fort Belvoir, Virginia

Try stumbling around the streets, whistling The Bonny Blue Flag if nobody answers your letter.

I've been an avid reader of DRIFTWOOD for a very long time now and I believe I have you neatly pegged. For one thing, I think you probably are a terrific diver who generously gives a good deal of his time to youngsters interested in the sport as well as others who are smart enough to see behind that false facade of sarcasm and indifference. Am I right?

RUTH ANN FREMONT
Eugene, Oregon

Well, I can at least have the decency to wish you were.

You seem to be very outspoken. Are you? Would you publish letters on scuba and diving gear if the readers sent them in? Letters, that is, giving the bad points and naming brands—even if it did annoy some manufacturers?

PAUL DOERR
Wheatland, Pennsylvania

You take your damned windmills and . . .

Your article, "Life Aboard Can Be Beautiful," sorta doesn't go with your anti-togetherness kick. How come?

JIM TOBEN
Los Angeles, California

I'm inconsistent.

For years, I have suppressed a desire to write some comment about magazine articles and such. The fear of being thought a fool (I have a terrible inferiority complex) has restrained me up to now, but after reading the September DRIFTWOOD—and rather than see you drift away with the winds—here I am. I hope the page stays afloat for a long time to come. I can already see your comments about this letter—if you use any of it. I feel it only fair to warn you, Kohler, that I am a gal of many moods, and tomorrow I may hate you and diving and diving husbands as well as everything connected with the down-under set. So, in anticipation of future letters, I ask you not to use my last name.

LEE MAHAVIER
San Antonio 1, Texas

Now you've got something to hate us for: we just don't go that mystery-writer route around here any more.

Since everyone (including Disgruntled) reads DRIFTWOOD—can anyone tell me of their diving experiences off Sanibel Island, Florida? Am being constantly asked re water conditions and I don't know. Me, I like your column and learn something new all the time. Diving for girls, now? I thought it was fish they were after—suckers!

ENID P. DONAHUE
Sanibel, Florida

Now, now, Enid . . .

A few months ago I attended a lecture on safe diving given by Commander Bond of the New London submarine base. He does not allow his divers to hold their breath for more than 2½ minutes. The reason being, prolonged loss of oxygen to the brain cells will permanently damage them. Anything over 2½ minutes and you are either taking your chances or you're nuts. In the August DRIFTWOOD you said you consider a diver inept if he cannot hold his breath in action for at least 2 minutes. I think you are a little hard on skin divers. I am a newcomer to this sport and enjoy it very much, but I hate to think of how much fun I would have missed following your advice. I can now hold my breath for about 1 minute and I don't consider myself inept. Maybe I should, but I don't. I would be interested in finding out how many divers can meet your requirements. None of the divers I know can.

JEAN ANDERSON
Mattapan, Massachusetts

I have no such thing as "requirements." I don't much give a damn whether you or any other diver stays underwater for a minute or an hour. And if I gave any advice at all, it was simply this: Today's younger divers would do well to practice plenty of skin diving, patiently building up as much ability to prolong their breath-holding time as possible. Did Commander Bond tell you that only 1 out of every 5 people, of average health, makes a competent diver?

Are you really serious when you state that a guy or gal should learn how to become pretty good at skin diving before they begin learning how to use scuba? This isn't what my instructor told me when I recently learned scuba diving.

DANNY CUMMINGS
Redondo Beach, California

I'm serious.

Have you ever thought that a lot of your readers don't know enough about what you are saying half the time? What do you expect from them? I started blind in diving, but I have been diving for many years now and I have been thinking about getting a lung. I would like to try some salvage or rescue or what have you.

GARLAND LOVING
Gurdon, Arkansas

Half the time I don't understand this page myself.

I have had just about all I can take of this Beat business. I reside in New York City and not very far from The Village, so I am unfortunate enough to view the Beats in action. I am firmly convinced that half of them are nothing but pseudo-intellectuals . . . and the remainder little better than morons.

JEFF KOENS
New York 21, N.Y.

Now is that a nice thing to say about a bunch of rabid individualists who ask only that they be allowed to live like bums?

I'm a member of a small group of people who do not go along with modern, conventional society. I wish I could figure out why there's been all this insane discussion about Beats. True, some Beats go overboard in their aversion to following the square sheep wherever the advertising boys want to lead them, but most of us who are really sincere about bucking basic conventional ideas aren't out to fight a war over it. I wash dishes for a living because I can't see taking advantage of my teaching degree in the stupid school system presently in force. I also skin dive whenever I have the time. My wife paints abstractions and my oldest daughter writes rather bad novels, but I hardly think we should be drummed out of our native land simply because we refuse to play ball with the credit system, attend P.T.A. meetings and pretend (like others pretend) that we are happy just because there are so many material things to be had.

THOMAS HADLEY
Venice, California

Yeh, those P.T.A. meetings ARE the opiate of the people.

I've been told you were skin diving over twenty years ago. I'm interested in just how divers might have been regarded, by the public at large, in those days. I'll probably get a screwball reply for my trouble in asking, but how were you treated back when?

JOHN SAMPSON
Las Vegas, Nevada

Most of the public were unaware that skin diving existed as a sport. Those who did, occasionally, see a diver thought he was mildly demented.

Would you mind telling me precisely where you ever got the ridiculous idea that women don't belong on diving expeditions? Personally, I think you are either kidding the girls or, if you are serious, just about the most stupid man alive.

JENNIFER MILLER
Clearlake, California

Well . . . you little boneypots DO look good sitting up there on the beach, tending the coffeepot and providing a splendid audience for us to disport ourselves before in the water.

. . . and as the violent tidal current sweeps out to sea again, leaving this imaginary jetty trembling in its drag, I thank you for writing, including those letters for which there just wasn't enough space. See you on these bleached planks next month?

Kohler

I HAD finally done it. Yes, after many years of hoping and waiting, I was able to buy a set of skin diving gear and materialize my dreams of becoming a skin diver. My diving partner in San Francisco, Ralph Kirk, who was mostly responsible for my becoming a skin diver, and I were all ready to have a time for ourselves in this fast-growing sport, but the United States Navy had other plans for me. They thought it best for me to give up being a free and fun-loving civilian and become one of them, so they gave me my active duty orders. Ralph's pep talks had convinced me

that, since I was attached to the Construction Battalion (Seabees) of the Navy, I would probably be sent to one of the beautiful South Pacific Islands, which are surrounded by the clear and warm waters of the South Pacific, and that I would be able to do as much skin diving as I desired.

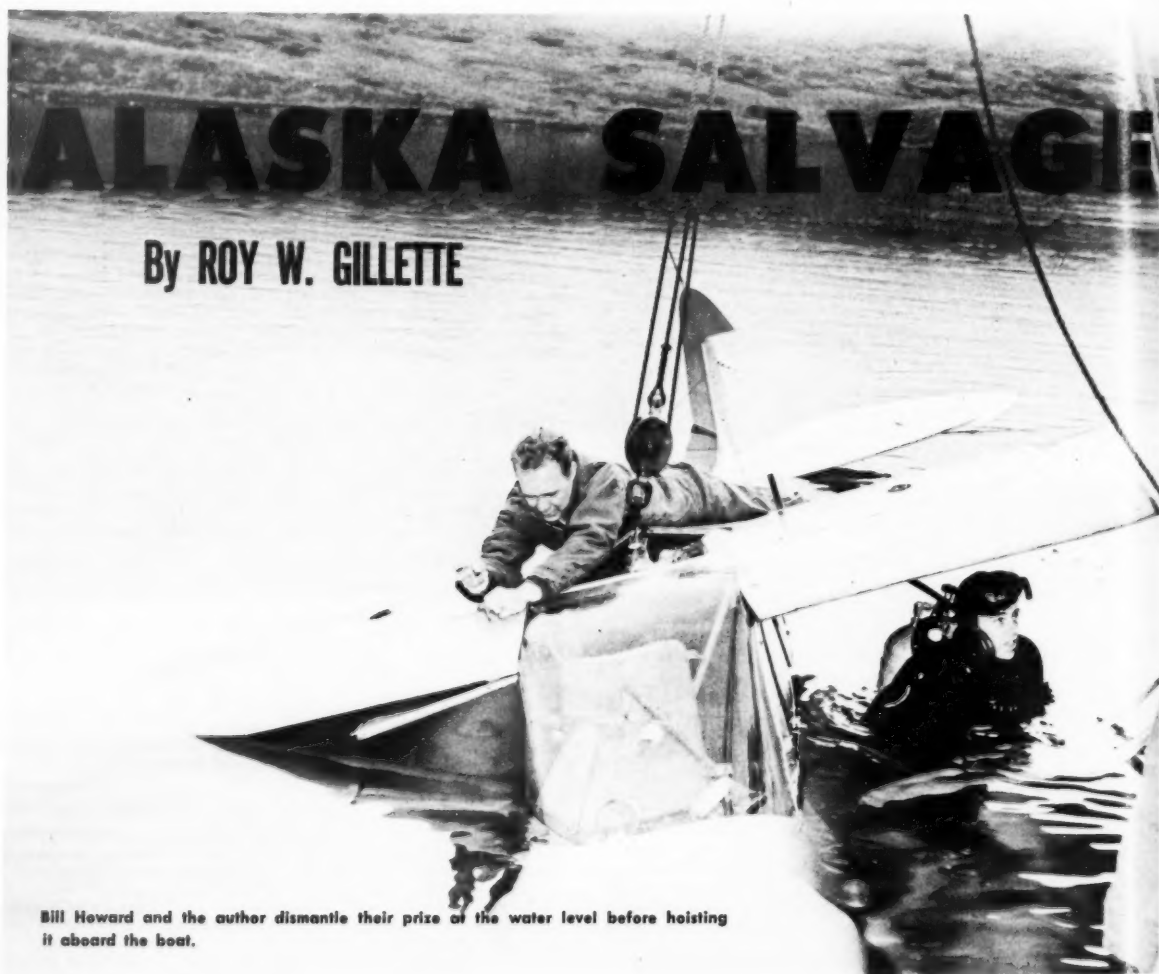
Oh, for those who are interested, I was stationed on an island in the Pacific, but it wasn't the South Pacific. In fact it was a little to the north. My orders stated that I was to report to Kodiak Island, which is forty miles from the mainland of Alaska!

When I arrived in Kodiak I found that my ideas of this part of Alaska were false. The ocean wasn't completely covered with ice as I had imagined. Actually, the only ice was near the shore. The temperature of the water was only 25°. After giving it serious thought, I decided to see just how good the neoprene wet suits were, and I asked Ralph to send me the 3/16" double-skinned wet suit he had just finished making for me. After spending thirty minutes in the freezing water, and finding that this was a very uncomfortable way to test a new

suit for leaks, I was satisfied that skin diving in Alaska was possible, so I sent home for the rest of my gear. This is how I ventured into Alaskan diving. Now I will tell you what skin diving is like in Alaska.

First of all, I found the neoprene wet suit capable of resisting temperatures far below those recommended for it. The shore of the location I had chosen for my first dive was completely covered with ice, and I had to walk out over the ice some distance to open water. Although this was the month of December, neither 25° water temperatures nor 10° air temperatures hindered me in my newly acquired sport of skin diving, or, better named for this region, "ice breaking."

Soon almost everyone knew that there was a skin diver in their midst. Some of my friends didn't have much faith in this Alaskan diving, but there were two who did, or at least seemed to believe that a properly equipped skin diver could survive in these waters. These were two fellow Navy men who had previously purchased the salvage rights to a small Piper Cub seaplane which had



Bill Howard and the author dismantle their prize at the water level before hoisting it aboard the boat.

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flipped over in the water and had sunk to a depth of approximately 40 feet. They asked me if I would hire out to find the plane and assist from the water in bringing her up. Always looking for new adventures and experiences, I was quick to grab the job. Two weeks later I found myself on a 35' fishing boat headed for the approximate location of the sunken plane.

On the way to the plane I gave the other three men aboard instructions on how to use the extra "lung" and what to do in case of emergency. After entering the water it took me just five minutes to find the plane, but that was only the beginning. With one man operating the hoist from the boat, and myself supervising from the water, we were able to get the plane to the surface, but the problem was to get it on the small boat deck. Here is where I found that working underwater with tools is more difficult than one might think. The only thing possible was to remove the wings and pontoons from the fuselage and hoist each part aboard separately. Just prior to getting the wings aboard the boat one of the wing gas tank caps came off, spilling gasoline all over the water.

If you think it is distasteful to get a big mouthful of salt water, you should try a little gasoline for a change of diet. By the time the plane was secured on the boat and my job in the water was complete, I had spent a total of ten hours in and under the water, and had used up all of the five tanks of air we had brought with us. I might add that on the way back to the Navy base we stopped at a cannery where I was offered \$25 just to dive down to 40 feet, find a prop, and tie a line to it so the owner could bring it up. Since all my tanks were empty I had to pass up this offer. I also missed out on a chance of recovering, for myself, a brand-new 35 hp outboard motor, because of lack of air.

The opportunities come fast and often in Alaska. You have to be ready for them. As long as we are on the subject of salvaging cost and pay I will throw in a few interesting remarks. The man who hired me to bring up his plane was offered \$3,000 for the wreckage "as is." This is good profit since it took only one diver, plus a spare on deck, a small fishing boat, and \$100 for the salvage rights.

Skin diving in the Alaskan area isn't impossible, far from it in fact. In the southern half of Alaska we have snow only in the winter. In the summer the snow melts, the trees and flowers bloom, the temperature rises to an average of 65°, and the sun shines for 20 hours a day.

The only problem you might run across up here is that the lack of transportation and facilities might prove to be a hindrance. There is only one main

BURRUD BRINGS HOME THE SILVER



Bill Burrud's quest for sunken silver in the Philippine-Manila Bay netted him the sum of 700 pesos (a little more than \$300), but he said the experiences were well worth the trip.

Upon his arrival in Manila to seek out a portion of the \$8,500,000 in silver pesos jettisoned before the fall of Corregidor in 1942, he was met by hard hat diver Charles Warrack, who had recovered approximately a million dollars in silver under contract for Philippine government.

Warrack offered his services as a guide to the treasure location and even provided an escort boat, to ward off any modern-day pirates in the area.

In several dives to 60 feet Burrud collected his treasure. Films of the Manila skin diving adventure will be shown on Burrud's "Treasure" show Tuesday, November 10, on KCOP in the Los Angeles, Calif. area.

highway into Alaska, and there aren't any motels, hotels, or drive-in restaurants at which to stop every few miles. The Alcan (Alaskan-Canadian) Highway runs from Canada to Fairbanks, Alaska, with a few side roads to various towns along the way. This highway is kept up all year round, but it is advisable to travel it only during the summer season, which would be from around March to late September. If you don't wish to drive, you can fly or come by boat.

Salvage work and exploring (large or small) are more promising up here than in most places, because there haven't been too many people willing to dive in these chilly waters for the treasures that lie beneath the surface. I have heard many reports of shipwrecks in relatively shallow water, but won't be able to have them verified until I receive the information I have requested from the U.S. Geodetic Office in Washington, D.C.

When you get tired of making money on salvage jobs you can grab your spear-gun and chase some fish, or vice versa. Fishing up here is plentiful for both hook and spear. You may choose anything from small trout two feet long

to large halibut weighing up to 800 lbs. I myself have a lot of fun spearfishing for the halibut; however, not quite as heavy as just mentioned. I have quite a bit of faith in my speargun, for recently my spear shaft penetrated a $\frac{1}{8}$ " sheet of solid steel on the sea bottom. I was surprised when I discovered the steel was not rusted and weak, but almost new. My gun is the underwater loading type. Water is forced down the barrel and compresses a spring diaphragm in a small cylinder mounted on the rear of the gun.

There are many types of fish up here to hunt, photograph, or study. There are also octopi, large unpredictable blackfish, "king" crab (largest in the world), lobster, and the already mentioned trout and halibut. Up here you don't have to worry about such dangerous fish as the moray eel, sharks, or barracuda. About the only thing to watch out for in the water is the killer whale, which has been known to attack anything, even the buoys. If you would like a fast cruise around Alaskan waters, try spearing a 200-lb. halibut! "Impossible," you say? Come to Alaska and we few skin divers will prove it.

O.K. MEN!

"CRAZY" 2 for 1 OFFER

Repeated by Demand!

Until Dec. 31, 1959 Only!
2 Complete Suits for the
Regular Price of ONE!

2 SUITS FOR \$29.95

One for you —
 One for a pal

THIS CRAZY OFFER put Skooba-"totes" on the map. Formerly it cost \$60.00 for a dry suit. Now, many thousands of divers wear Skooba-"totes". Yet, there are thousands more who haven't heard of this wonderful new suit. That's why we are repeating this money-saving 2 for the price of 1 offer.

Think of it! Two complete suits for the price of one. Both you and your buddy can dive in the world's finest professional dry suits for **less than it would cost you for just one "do-it-yourself" kit.** And man, what a suit! The finest pure gum rubber. Seamless! Stretchy! No rips! No tears! No leaks! No patchwork. Why not own the suit worn by professionals.

HURRY, SEE YOUR DEALER! Look for the special RED coupon attached to each box. These RED coupons authorize your dealer to give you this money-saving opportunity.

BUY ONE SUIT from your dealer. Pay him the regular price of \$29.95. Then mail us the following: 1. The RED coupon from the box. 2. The box end label showing stock number 2020-K or 2120-K. 3. Include sales slip from store along with one dollar to cover handling and postage. We'll then send you another suit promptly and postpaid.

IF YOUR LOCAL DEALER does not yet have Skooba-"totes" with the RED coupons attached to the box . . . show him this ad and ask him to order for you and others who

will see this amazing offer. **Sorry! No requests for free suits will be honored unless accompanied by the RED coupon and enclosures mentioned above. Offer expires Dec. 31, 1959.**

So-Lo MARX RUBBER Co.
Dept. SD-3, Loveland, Ohio



#21 WAIST RING and RAIL. Positive seal for waist entry suits. Grooved hard rubber rail with stretchy rubber ring. Sizes: Small, Medium, Large, Extra Large. **\$5.25 set**



#30 WAIST SEAL TUBING. Pliable ring of stretchy pure gum rubber. Trims to fit waist size perfectly. Sizes: Small, Medium, Large, Extra Large. **\$1.95**



#401-SD SHORE BOOT Skooba-"totes". Seamless, pure gum rubber boots with reinforcing for protection against sharp rocks. Sizes: Small, Medium, Large. Color: Brown. **\$3.50 pr.**



#203 DIVER'S GLOVE Skooba-"totes". Pliable pure gum rubber with tapered wrist seal. Rough grip outer surface. Sizes: Small, Med., Large. Color: Brown. **\$3.50 pr.**

ABOVE ITEMS NOT BEING OFFERED ON 2 FOR 1 BASIS

NEW!
IMPROVED!

**100%
SEAMLESS
PURE GUM
RUBBER!**

**EASY ON -
NO TALC
NEEDED**

**TAPERED
WRIST SEALS**

**NON SKID
REINFORCED FEET**

PROFESSIONAL SKOوبا-"totes". Suit consists of Long Shirt, Hood, Long Pants with feet. 5 sizes assures perfect fit. Color: Blending Brown.

#2020-K (with separate hood) **\$29⁹⁵**
#2120-K (1 pc. hood and shirt)

Order separate **WAIST RING & RAIL or WAIST SEAL TUBE** at prices shown at left, below.



**CONTOURED
FACE SEAL**

**STRETCHY
WON'T
BIND**

**TOUGH!
HARD TO
RIP OR
SNAG!**



"**WORLD'S FINEST DRY SUIT,**" says Ernie Ryckman, Commercial Diver of Key West, Florida. "The Skooba-'totes' tough, seamless rubber makes it the ideal suit for rough salvage work . . . or for pleasure diving. The only suit for diving at greater depths and in coldest water. I couldn't work for hours underwater without Skooba-'totes'! And there's nothing else like it on the market."

WARMER THAN ANY OTHER SUIT



Chief Arthur Stanfield, UDT and World Famous Instructor, writes: "It's the only suit for diving at greater depths and in coldest water. Wearing Skooba-'totes' dry suit the diver can withstand much colder water for longer periods of time."

LOOK! COMPARE!

NO OTHER SUIT OFFERS ALL THESE:

- **EASY TO PUT ON**—even without talc because it's made of special anti-grab pure gum rubber.
- **NO SEAMS** to rip . . . **NO LEAKS!**
- **TOUGH!** Hard to snag or rip—because they S-T-R-E-T-C-H!
- **100% FACTORY GUARANTEED!**
- **CONTROLLED WARMTH!** For extreme cold wear two suits of underwear.
- **BETTER FIT!** 5 sizes to choose from and they stretch to fit perfectly . . . yet won't bind.
- **NOT A KIT!** A ready-made suit complete and ready to dive.
- **TAPERED WRISTS** and contoured face to provide watertight seals—won't cut circulation.

100% FACTORY GUARANTEED! Skooba-'totes' are made by the makers of the World's Largest Selling seamless gum rubber waterproof wear for men, women, children and sportsmen.

So-Lo Marx Rubber Company Loveland, Ohio

New Shark Repellent Invented

A new shark repellent mixture has been invented by three southern Californians, who claim that the sharks run when the odoriferous stuff is released. The next step for the inventors is to package the mixture in small pressure cans for use by skin divers. Exhaustive tests have been made with the repellent by commercial tuna fishermen who found it entirely satisfactory. The large commercial nets used for tuna fishing were undamaged by sharks while the mixture was being used. During an underwater test in Hawaii a tiger shark was observed avoiding the test area for more than one hour after the compound had been released. The inventors said that the mixture would be placed on the market just as soon as it can be packaged and all of the tests are completed. ➤

Twenty-four States Adopt Boating Laws

Twenty-four states have adopted the uniform reciprocal boat numbering systems along the lines prescribed by the Federal Boating Act of 1958, according to the latest monthly progress report issued by the Outdoor Boating Club of America.

California's boat numbering bill was the last one to join the list. Its provisions were appended to a boating safety bill which was passed by the legislature on the next to the last day of its 1959 session.

Ten states have the numbering bills pending before their legislatures, while ten other legislatures adjourned without passing a numbering act.

If a state does not act by April 1, 1960, the Coast Guard will oversee the program, collect the fees, and register the state's motorboats operating on "navigable waters," i.e., waters under federal control.

New Orleans Scuba Contest—Bajaos & Dixie Divers

By Marcia Alba

With the completion of the A.A.U. Competitive Skin Diving eliminations in June, the Grand Isle Tarpon Rodeo in July, and the New Orleans-Grand Isle Scuba Divers Internationals in August, it is fairly safe to state without fear of contradiction that Gulf Coast divers have gone through a rather busy summer.

On the heels of these three contests comes the New Orleans Scuba Meet. This Meet is a specially organized interclub competition between the Dixie Divers Club and the Bajaos Skin Diving Club of New Orleans.

Preliminary checking of the fish board where the divers have registered their fish, indicates that the Dixie Divers Club is leading the contest with 90 points. King Spearfisherman at this date is Dick Alba, Dixie Divers Club, with 30 points.

The following fish have been registered for first, second and third place on the board: jewfish: 1. Jay Albanese, B, 323½ lb., 2. Jay Albanese, B, 141¼ lb., 3. Fred Wust, B, 125 lb.; cobia: 1. Huell Scott, DDC, 56¼ lb., 2. Roy Smith, DDC, 45¼ lb., 3. Roy B. Hunsberger, DDC, 39½ lb.; barracuda: 1. Roland Riviere, DDC, 38½ lb., 2. Huell Scott, DDC, 36¼ lb., 3. Dick Alba, DDC, 36 lb.; jack crevalle: 1. Dick Alba, DDC, 28 lb., 2. Roland Riviere, DDC, 25¼ lb., 3. Roy Smith, DDC, 25 lb.; red snapper: 1. Dick Alba, DDC, 22 lb. 2 oz., 2. Dick Alba, DDC, 17 lb. 15 oz., 3. Huell Scott, DDC, 16 lb.; sheepshead: 1. Pete Billac, DDC, 8 lb. 4 oz., 2. Pete Billac, B, 7 lb. 4 oz., 3. Jim Upton, B, 6 lb. 5 oz.

The competition has sparked both clubs to greater efforts. The closing date for registering fish is January 3, 1960. ➤

Marine Coastal Access Boost

In the past few years the National Park Service has reported several times on the urgency of acquiring for public use key stretches of the nation's vanishing coastal shoreline. From the standpoint of access for marine sport fishing, as well as other almost equally popular recreational activities, the urgency can hardly be overstressed. Nationally, provision of both inland and coastal public fishing access ranks among our most pressing outdoor recreational needs.

In this respect, now, conservationists and recreationists have reason to be encouraged. The Department of the Interior is now seeking to implement the Service's recommendations. It recently requested that Congress authorize a limited program for the preservation of the nation's vanishing shoreline. It was the first official proposal to arise from the Service's privately-financed shoreline surveys.

No areas were named, but the Park Service's advisory board has reviewed and approved a dozen possibilities. These include Cape Cod's outer beach, the Oregon sand dunes, the Indiana dunes on Lake Michigan, the channel islands off the California coast, Padre Island, Texas, and Point Reyes, California.—Sport Fishing Institute. ➤

Fifth Graders Play Sea Characters

The youngsters in Mrs. Kathleen Foglino's fifth grade class in Elmhurst, N.Y., are learning teamwork and the basics of undersea life in a very pleasant manner.

Under the supervision of Mrs. Foglino, the children are putting on a school play in which a pair of skin divers shares the starring roles. The other characters are made up of assorted species of undersea life.

The plot of the play is the search for a missing watch by the skin divers and a friendly porpoise. During the course of the play the trio meets the other characters. The dialogue was written so that each character makes available to the skin divers a little more information about life beneath the sea.

The watch is finally located by the only other "humans" in the play, two oceanographers who describe their undersea work and explain that by studying the ocean depths it is possible to make the world we know a better place to live in. The play comes to a close when the divers run out of air and must return to the surface.

The only trouble encountered by Mrs. Foglino was from her husband, Hank, a member of the Central Seals, Inc., of Jamaica, N.Y. He wanted to take the whole cast to the seashore for a dress rehearsal and couldn't understand why the children's parents might object. ➤

Bermuda Divers Association Formed With 70 Members

HAMILTON, Bermuda, Sept. 1959 — A group of local skin divers recently banded together to form the Bermuda Divers Association.

Mr. Harry Cox, B.D.A. president, said there were two main purposes behind the founding of the new organization. First, to establish recognized standards of diving, and later to apply for international recognition as a club.

Bermuda Divers Association already boasts a total of 70 members, including two local skin divers who won world-wide notice through the pages of Life Magazine for their undersea discoveries.

They are Teddy Tucker, who found a fabulous treasure trove in the wreck of a 16th century Spanish galleon off Bermuda; and Edmund Downing, the discoverer of the "Sea Venture," Bermuda's founding ship.

Mr. Cox pointed out that his organization is the first of its kind ever formed in this mid-Atlantic resort. He added that its existence would also serve the interests of visiting underwater swimming and diving enthusiasts in matters of fraternity and equipment.

The B.D.A. president emphasized that his group had no desire to patrol diving in Bermuda. Rather, the new association was anxious to further promote its popularity in an organized and safe fashion.

Skin diving is perhaps the fastest growing aquatic sport in this year-round vacationland, with dozens of wrecks located a safe distance from shore.

In addition, Bermuda's crystal-clear waters are ideally suited for below-surface photography. Added to this is the fact that the protective reefs encircling the 21-mile long island chain make for some of the safest underwater swimming and diving in the world.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mouth-to-Mouth Tube

The ingenious new Mira resuscitating tube molded of tough Tenite polyethylene plastic offers effective aid to medical and rescue personnel by simplifying mouth-to-mouth resuscitation of non-breathing victims of drowning, asphyxiation or electric shock.

Resistant to most chemicals used in cold sterilization, the polyethylene tube—which looks like an elongated S—provides the rescuer with a mouthpiece and a breathing tube. After the victim has been placed on his back, one end of the tube is inserted into his mouth until the flange rests against his lips or teeth. The rescuer then breathes through the tube into the victim's airways and lungs, at the rate of 15 to 20 times a minute, interrupting the artificial respiration to permit passive exhalation by the victim.

A pamphlet listing the medical references that recommend mouth-to-mouth resuscitation as the quickest and simplest method of life-saving when resuscitation is needed, is available from The Mira Corporation, 2656 North Pasadena, Los Angeles 31, California.

Molded by Short Run Plastics, 4011 52nd St., Maywood, Calif., from Tenite polyethylene supplied by Eastman Chemical Products, Inc., subsidiary of Eastman Kodak Company, Kingsport, Tennessee, the Mira resuscitating tubes are available in sizes for children and adults. The Tenite polyethylene plastic is pleasant to touch and like the tube itself helps overcome the reluctance that many people have to direct oral contact.

President's Council on Youth Fitness

The Third Annual Meeting of the President's Council on Youth Fitness with the President's Citizens Advisory Committee on the Fitness of American Youth will be held September 13, through September 15, 1959, at the United States Air Force Academy, Colorado Springs, Colorado, Secretary of the Interior Fred A. Seaton, Chairman of the Council, announced recently.

Major General James E. Briggs, Superintendent of the Academy, and Shane McCarthy, Executive Director, President's Council on Youth Fitness, are jointly working out the details of the Conference and will serve as "on the spot" hosts for the work sessions.

The President's Council on Youth Fitness is composed of seven Cabinet members (Interior, Defense, Agriculture, Commerce, Labor, Health, Education, and Welfare; and Housing and Home Finance Agency) charged with the responsibility of promoting the "efficiency of existing programs and the launching of additional programs which will enhance the fitness of American youth."

The Council seeks to coordinate, stimulate, and improve not only the functions of Federal agencies with respect to the fitness of youth but chiefly to encourage the extension and implementation of existing local community programs by making maximum use of all facilities and organizations already in existence.

Arizona Diver Attacks Weeds for State

Another attempt by the Arizona Game and Fish Department to find a positive method of controlling excessive weed growth in Arizona's lakes was carried out when Jack Murray, assistant law enforcement chief for the department, donned skin diving gear and tried out an entirely new concept in weed control operations.

Murray, working with Fisheries Supervisor Dave Foster, placed a large sheet of black, polyethylene plastic directly over the tops of the weeds which characteristically plague fishermen at Big Lake in eastern Arizona. The use of plastic sheets to control weeds and prevent life-giving light from reaching them is being tried on a 20 x 100 foot experimental plot.

After the plastic sheet was in place Murray, an experienced skin diver, located and salvaged three 30-gallon drums of sodium arsenate, a weed poison, in approximately 12 feet of water. The drums, weighing 360 pounds apiece, were lost two years ago during a department weed control operation.

The Game and Fish Department owns two sets of diving lungs and plans to acquire more equipment in the future. Several members are now being trained in the use of this equipment.

"Secret Cargo" 16mm Film Is Available to Clubs

"Secret Cargo" is a completely authentic adventure of diving from a magnificent schooner in search for untold treasure beneath the sea. There are scenes of beauty, excitement, and danger in waters inhabited by the usual marine denizens.

This underwater film is available from Hiram Walker Inc., at either 3460 Wilshire Blvd., Los Angeles 5, California, or The Penobscot Building, Detroit 26, Michigan.

SKIN DIVER—November 1959

A BOY'S OCEAN

The ocean is a place for fun,
To enjoy salty shores and old Mr. Sun.
Come people from miles to practice anew
Surfing and diving, which are only a few
Of many sports played with the seas,
But I confine myself to these.

To discover a part of the ocean floor
Is to view nature's treasures through a wide-open door.
The beautiful fishes and swaying kelp beds,
With mystic formations of white coral heads,
Give a person who ventures a few feet below
A very exciting and breath-taking show.

For those who remain on the surface above
There's a thrilling sport I'm sure they will love.
With a surfboard of balsa, finished so fine,
Perfection in symmetry, a skeg true in line,
Nerve, skill, and a most delicate balance
Are essential for this sport of talents.

What a thrill you feel when catching the curl!
Then you stand as the board begins to pearl—
Riding the swell down, down to the beach,
Where everyone seems to be within reach.
Then the swell breaks and crashes ashore
But already you're returning, yearning for more.

And when your surfing and diving are done,
You can lie on the beach and bask in the sun.
With the pools exposed on the receding tide,
An interesting exploration will be in stride.
At the edge of the sea, home of strange creatures,
You may ponder marine life's divers features.

So you see, the ocean is a wondrous thing—
Enjoyed by all, peasant and king.
The continents are girded by this watery robe
Which spreads far and wide over most of the globe.
I gaze over these waters with greatest esteem—
That great, mighty ocean surely reigns supreme.

by John Tomson
Marine Marauders
Diving Club
San Diego, California

INSTRUCTOR'S CORNER

By NEAL HESS

Underwater Instructor
Certified by Los Angeles County
Training Director Boston YMCA Sea Rovers



The country appears to have become very conscious of the need for good skin and scuba instruction. Except for the Southern California and Florida areas, I would guess that about 90 per cent of all scuba instruction is given in YMCA pools.

I have received reports from people who attended the YMCA National Scuba Instruction Conference in Chicago, at which time the YMCA established a group of instructors who will have the power to certify other instructors in their respective areas. Needless to say, this is only a rudimentary beginning; but in my book it marks the start of some very safe and sane practices in the instruction of scuba diving. Furthermore, it may well be the beginning of a good nationwide instructor certification program.

One recommendation I should like to make to all local YMCA certifying instructors is that they contact Los Angeles County Department of Parks and Recreation, 834 West Olympic Boulevard, Los Angeles, California, for copies of that department's program in certification. Next, I feel all of you YMCA people should write the Broward, Florida, Red Cross for copies of their skin and scuba diving instructions and instructors' certification. The latter can be obtained from Mr. John C. Jones, 215 S.E. Eighth Avenue, Fort Lauderdale, Florida.

The first group of YMCAs to begin certification is the McBurney YMCA group which will certify instructors in the following YMCAs: Rochester; Albany; Queens Central; McBurney, New York City; Railroad, New York City; and Huntington, Long Island. The certification will be a two-day lecture and pool work meeting. This most certainly is a fine beginning and has the backing of the Empire State Council.

Charles Dunn, Artie Illiano, Bud Keithline, Al Boehm, Roy and June Kieser have this program under control. Bud Keithline was their representative to the National YMCA Conference.

Although their beginning program is short, it is nevertheless a good start and for this reason I include the outline here:

First Scuba Instructor's Institute of Greater New York—

<i>First Day</i>	
Introduction	8:30- 9:30
Diving Equipment	9:35-10:50
Physics and Physiology	11:00-12:30
Lunch	
Diving Diseases	1:30- 2:45
Water Conditions	2:50- 4:05
Training Aids	4:15- 4:45
Methods of Teaching	4:50- 6:00
<i>Second Day</i>	
Pool Procedures	9:00-12:00
Lunch	
Artificial Respiration	1:00- 2:20
Lifesaving	2:30- 4:00
Written Test	4:30- 5:15
Critique	5:20- 6:00

The first instructors' certification program of Los Angeles County was a little longer than the above. The major weakness of the New York program is that instruction seems to have been kept within the group rather than asking, for example, a local diving doctor to go over the diving diseases. In addition, there was no open water instruction. I feel that any diver certified as an instructor must have proven his ability in open water. Los Angeles County requires the potential instructor to repeat the major

Instructors take note: Mr. Hess is compiling a complete list of instructors throughout the country and requests that you send him your name, address and an outline of your skin and/or scuba instructor course.

pool tests in the open ocean before he is certified.

We will expect June Kieser, secretary of the group, to keep us informed as to their results, problems, and students' reactions.

Mr. Frank Scalli, President of the Boston Sea Rovers and Underwater Instructor at the Huntington Avenue YMCA, was also present at the Chicago meeting. He writes that copies of the Boston Sea Rovers' lesson plan are available to anyone writing the Sea Rovers for a copy. I most heartily recommend their lesson plan, an up-to-date version of my own plan, for those of you beginning to instruct and for those instructors who would like to review their own standards of instruction with those of a topnotch program.

Many instructors are sending me lesson plans from which I will compile a list of those instructors whom I consider to be competent. This list will be ready for publication in *Skin Diver* early in 1960, before the diving season begins. We would appreciate a copy of your lesson plan. However, I do feel free to criticize lesson plans sent to me and require that the lessons be brought up to minimum standards before the instructor is accepted for listing. The purpose of this column is to improve instruction standards, not to list everyone who considers himself an instructor.

A good response has been received to the articles on First Aid and I should like to pass some information on to you. Mr. Delano Manos, who is an ambulance driver in Los Angeles, spends his free time in the ocean. He writes:

"You mentioned in your column having an antiseptic in one's first-aid kit. I would like to say that iodine would be of no value to an injury sustained in the ocean, as the ocean contains a high quantity of iodine anyway. In my first-aid kit I use a substance called Tincture of Zephirin which has been very effective against wounds received while diving. I consider it the finest antiseptic for our purpose, and it can be purchased at any drugstore without prescription."

John C. Jones, Jr., of the Broward Red Cross suggested the following—

Personal First-Aid Kit for Diving:

12 adhesive compresses, one-inch width,
12 gauze squares, three inches by three inches,

2 bandages, two inches by six yards,
1 bottle Konkr-Burn (plastic, four-ounce, used for burns, sunburn, insect bites, and man-of-war stings),

1 splinter forceps, three-inch length.

The above items are carried in a small rectangular plastic refrigerator box with a waterproof snap-on cover. This plastic container is carried in a canvas zipper bag along with diving gear. These items should take care of most injuries received while diving and items used can be replaced after each trip.

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DIVING SAUCER IN THE CARIBBEAN

One of the first U.S. photo releases of the revolutionary diving saucer designed by Jacques Cousteau (inset) and members of the OFRS shows the apparatus aboard the research vessel Calypso in Bermuda's Hamilton Harbor. The diving saucer behind Dr. Charles Jaimet, skin diver and McMaster University (Canada) professor, is jet propelled and designed for underwater depths of 1000 feet. James Dugan in the book "Undersea Explorer" describes the saucer as similar to comic book "flying saucers". "The difference is that Cousteau's vehicles of inner space actually exist. Cousteau states in the book, "We did not use previous principles of submarines, there are no propellers. The diving saucer is ellipsoidal, a flattened sphere. Unlike submarines the diving saucer has underwater viewing ports, and there are hydraulic claws on the outside, operated by remote control."

BERMUDA NEWS BUREAU PHOTOS

DIVING GALS GO NAVY



By EDNA BLACKINGTON

ON August 20th, the Rhode Island Sea Gals, Inc. accepted an invitation from Commodore Monroe of Gould Island and had the most enjoyable trip of the summer.

At 9 a.m., five enthusiastic gals passed through Quonset Point gates and were met by Chief Warrant Officer Williams—truly a southern gentleman and a credit to the Navy. Our first stop was at the shore diving headquarters. This is a small installation housing equipment (lungs and hard-hat gear) for ship repair dockside. We spent an enjoyable and informative time inspecting the gear until a torpedo recovery boat came to take us to Gould Island.

Needless to say, in this no-woman's world of blues and whites, the Sea Gals had quite a send-off from the shore-based men and the crew of the Wasp. As a sidelight, the scars of her recent fire were quite visible and she was on

her way to Boston for repairs. On the way to Gould Island, Chief Warrant Officer Williams, an experienced diver, spouted more information than a surfacing whale. Along with a vast amount of technical information and general instruction, he said that the Navy, while it doesn't condone it for the general public of divers, still uses rebreathers. Their one advantage is lack of air bubbles, which would be noticed on beach raids. We couldn't find a single diver who liked using them. Of interest to all is the new Navy Medical Diving College in Buffalo. All types of diving disabilities and injuries will be studied. Of lesser importance, but still interesting, is that fish *do* get the "bends." Would like to see an article on that!

Reaching Gould Island, the Sea Gals were escorted to the recompression chamber (not decompression, we were informed in a hurry). Tests were in the

process of being completed and we were able to witness five divers at a time in the recompressor at 150 feet on compressed air. A different group was taken down to 60 feet on oxygen. Tolerance supposedly is 30 feet, but we learned that the Navy either cuts everything in half or doubles it. Each Sea Gal had at least two qualified divers at her side all the time and any questions asked were answered in detail. Also, while tests were in process, we were given a complete lecture on the workings of the recompressor and on diving physics. Never have so few learned so much in so short a time! Admittedly, most of us are novices. After the tests, we were taken aboard one of the diving boats.

Boat No. 4, the largest of the diving ships, is a converted mine sweeper that has been changed into a divers' paradise. They had tanks (on racks) stacked like firewood, every conceivable type of equipment, and a recompressor of their own on board. This, we were told, is used a great deal in the winter. Whether hard-hat or free diving, the winter water in R.I. is cold, so the Navy cuts actual recompression to below minimum. The diver is rushed into the chamber to recompress in comfort (sleep, hot food, radio, etc.). While under controlled and vigilant Naval conditions this is done safely, it cannot be applied to the general diver who has no access to a recompressor.

Because hard-hat equipment is new to us, the highlight of the day was the hard-hat dive by seaman Nesbitt. The gear can be put on or taken off in less than 30 seconds. When you consider the number of bolts to be locked, the heavy helmet, shoes and 80-lb. weight belt, the time is almost unbelievable! The Gals vowed never again to complain about lugging their weight belts!!

After the dive and gear inspection, we were escorted over the entire boat. The tanks for the hard-hat and hookah gear were tremendous. They have a large compressor for scuba gear, and dry suits are the only type used.

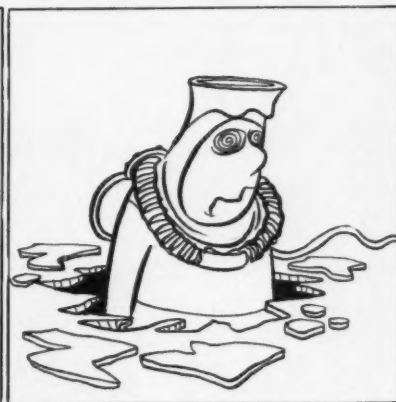
All too soon, it was time to leave for home. It was not a final good-by, however, as several divers have volunteered to give the Sea Gals scuba instruction at the base pool. These plans are now being completed.

Of special interest to east coast divers is that special trips can be arranged by your club. The Navy has held out a friendly hand to divers in the Rhode Island area. Commodore Monroe did everything possible to make the trip interesting and informative. Chief Williams was the best ambassador the Navy could possibly have. The officers and men of No. 4 are the best. What more can be said except that the Sea Gals had a wonderful time and garnered a sea-full of diving knowledge! We recommend it highly.



"Now we know our anoxia symptoms
we'll go on to O₂ Poisoning!"

McSPLASH by Kohler



UNDERWATER SOCIETY OF AMERICA

By CARL H. HAUBER

H. V. "PAPPY" FLOOD
JOHN J. McANIFF
Publicity Committee

BECAUSE the medium of the printed word necessarily requires time for preparation, presentation, and distribution, this writing cannot contain a report of the activities and accomplishments at the September Board of Governors' Meeting in Chicago. On the other hand, I am pleased to report that the December issue of SDM will contain a complete review of the entire meeting, including photographs. Considering what was scheduled to be accomplished at the meeting, the report promises to be a dramatic one.

No matter what the diving councils of the Continent decide, divers will ultimately feel the effect. The existence (or the absence) of a Continental organization to represent Canadian and American divers will greatly affect the future trends of the sport in such important areas as public opinion, favorable legislation (or lack of adverse legislation), "social" acceptance in the sports world and elsewhere, and equal opportunities

for all in National and International competitive activities.


By now, those clubs and divers who have written regarding membership in the Society are receiving the necessary information. It is urged that each and every diver reading this report seriously consider the advantages of membership. The strength of an organization dictates its capabilities. Size=strength=capabilities=material progress. This is only basic logic.

The reason the Society will be large, strong, and capable, is that, in contrast to previous attempts to organize nationally, the Society is to be operated by its members. If this is not to be, then there cannot and will not be an Underwater Society. No one can be behind it for monetary gain. No one can dictate its policies. No one can run it. Only the majority can add to, subtract from, or change it.

This Society can be a monument in defiance of individual attempts to capitalize on the sincere needs of divers. Such an organization would be praised by those who recognize its worth, and

damned by those who envy its position. It would be criticized when it is wrong, and would be thereby corrected. The sustenance of such a Society is participation and contribution. For these things it has an insatiable hunger. Without these things, it will quickly starve to death. No one can make you want the Society, but if you *do* want it, you shall have it, whether now, or in the future.

And now, my friends, the time for talking is at an end. My colleagues entrusted to me the duty of bringing a message to you in this series of articles. To those who have endured my efforts from beginning to end, I must offer humble thanks. You have surely found me to be a novice with the pen. I hope you have found me sincere. One finds it quite simple to say that a thing is good, yet very hard to explain why.

In closing, may I say that I am firmly convinced the diving councils of this Nation and Canada will not stand for the creation of an organization of a lesser caliber than I have attempted to describe to you in the past. Do not expect them to ratify the Underwater Society of America just so they can go home and say they have done it. Confucius didn't say it, but the following phrase certainly befits the feelings toward this Underwater Society of America, expressed by those with whom I have personal contact: ROOT, HOG, OR DIE!!! (And, Godspeed!) 

WE PLANTED THE REEF

By O. W. LARSON

WE SPRAWLED on the warm sandy beach. It felt inviting after the hours of diving in the cold waters of the isolated reef near Ventura, California. "Bunk" Stater, a fellow teacher-diving buddy, and I were recounting the day's adventures when he exclaimed, "Boy, if that reef only had abalone on it, it would be perfect!" Like most divers we had never thought of doing anything about the situation until that afternoon. "Why not plant our own crop on the reef?" he asked. I looked at him as if he had just sprouted another head, but the more he talked about it the better the idea sounded. "I'm game, let's give it a whirl!" Bunk thought that since this would be a sort of conservation project we should first contact the Fish and Game Department, especially since abs were not in season as yet. The campaign to get abs on the reef was begun. Captain Fullerton of the Fish and Game Department was notified of our plan and took a genuine interest in it. Time passed and we began to think the plan would fall through, but one fine day I got a call from Bunk. "Think you can sneak out next week end? The abalone project is set; we go to the islands for our starter crop next weekend!"

The Channel Islands lie about twenty miles off the coast from Ventura. On any warm, sunny afternoon you can see them shimmering in the distance, their crystal-cool waters alive with treasures

of the sea. This would be our destination. The letter from Captain Fullerton stated we must use stainless steel identification tags approximately one half inch square and be sure they were numbered consecutively. These tags should be attached with wire of the same steel as the tags in order to prevent galvanic action from deteriorating the metal.

Our plan was to leave early on a Saturday morning from Port Hueneme aboard the "Yellowtail," a sleek, speedy Fish and Game boat, pick up the abs in the area near Anacapa Island, then hightail it for the reef off Ventura where we would plant our crop. Tags were prepared and all arrangements were made. The weekend before the

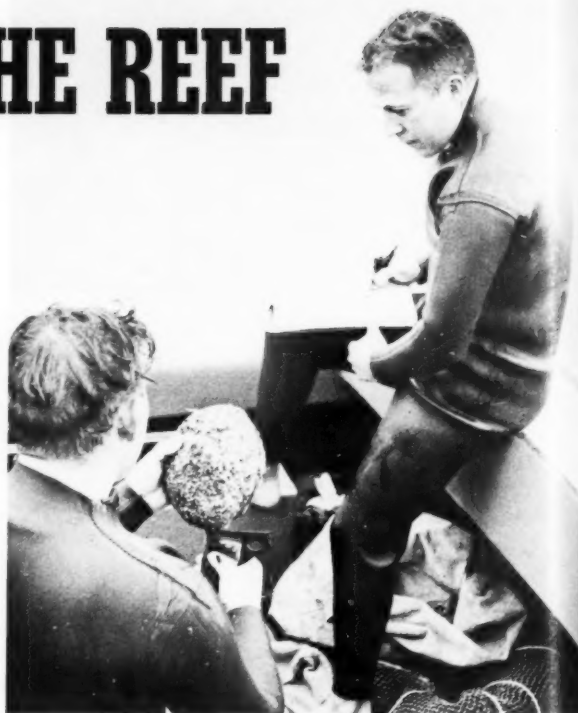
trip we set out two marker buoys near the reef so that the planting area could easily be spotted on our return trip.

Five o'clock on a cold, foggy Saturday morning we congregated at Frank Stouts' apartment. Who else but a bunch of crazy skin divers would be up and around preparing for a swim at this ungodly hour? After coffee, eggs and bacon we began to feel a little more enthusiasm for the jaunt. Dave Ricards, another teacher-diver, had joined the group and with Bud Bottoms, from Santa Barbara, our roster was complete. We hurriedly threw our gear into my pickup. We had a few extra bottles of air, ham sandwiches and coffee for that inevitable gnawing sensation in

The divers unloaded the abalone and placed each one on the reef with special care. All of the abs were given a number.



Planters Frank Stout and Bunk Stater measure and record all of the abs.



Warden Holsapple explains duties aboard the "Yellowtail." L-R are Bunk Stater, Holsapple, Frank Stout and Dave Ricards.



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the stomach, plus some extra gunny sacks to keep our abs comfortable on the return trip.

On our arrival at Port Hueneme we began to have serious doubts about the trip. A heavy fog had rolled in during the night and not an island was to be seen. Just then, out of the mist came a beautiful sight, the "Yellowtail" with her radar gear scanning the area. Before long we were all aboard and headed for Anacapa. Skipper of the "Yellowtail" was William (Bill) McGuire. The crew for this trip, Howard (Bud) Holsapple and Tony Vale, all wardens with the Department of Fish and Game. Never having had too close an association with wardens we were at first a bit apprehensive, but the friendliness and efficiency of the crew of the "Yellowtail" soon made us feel right at home. Bud Holsapple told us of the life he and his buddies live aboard the "Yellowtail," of the storms they have encountered and the problems they have with "game hogs." We got the impression that their job was not to scare the wits out of skin divers or other sportsmen, but to protect the fish and wildlife of our state against waste and destruction, so that we will always have a place of beauty and abundant game both above and beneath the seas.

Bill McGuire was kept pretty busy at the radarscope, but he did manage to tell me that their boat was built in 1954 at Santa Monica, California. She is 38 feet long, with a beam of 14 feet. She is powered by twin Cadillac engines that drive her "V" type hull in excess of 35 knots. We were surprised to find that the area patrolled by the boat is from Point Conception south to Santa Monica including Catalina and the Channel Islands. They are supposed to work five days with two days off, but often they run considerably longer than this schedule.

Less than an hour after departure we were at our destination and scrambling into our diving gear. Tony Vale, one of the wardens, is an excellent diver

SOMETHING FISHY

By RAY HOGLUND

Amia Calva . . . Bowfin . . . Fresh water dogfish.

The Bowfin, or as he's commonly known here in the midwest, the dogfish, is one of those fishes classified as a "rough fish," and is therefore legal game for the spearfisherman in most of the midwestern states. His extreme tenacity of life and gaminess make him a favorite of the spearfisherman.

As the sole survivor of his family, the bowfin is readily recognizable by his torpedo like shape, a dorsal fin which

and this made three buddy teams, so off we went in search of *Haliotis* (abs to you illiterates). The water around Anacapa can only be described as breathtaking, especially as it first creeps inside your wet suit. Soon we looked like a small herd of happy seals, each calling out "Over here! these are man-hole covers!"

The plan called for 50 abs but fortunately we had tags for 100 and the final count was 72 fine specimens, reds, greens, pinks and blacks of all sizes. Each abalone was measured, tagged and recorded for future reference. They were then placed on wet burlap sacks with more sacks covering them. Fresh sea water was occasionally poured over them on the trip to the Ventura reef. So far as we know, none perished in transit.

On arrival at the reef near Ventura we filled our sacks with abs and prepared to plant them. We were instructed to hold them firmly against the side of a rock until they gripped it. Some of the abs got the idea right away, but I fear the I.Q. of others was not what it might have been. We solved this problem by wedging these reluctant ones into crevices so they would not get swept away by the surge over the reef. I heard Bud Bottoms say, "This is like a bad dream. Surrounded by wardens and us putting back all these luscious abs."

The job completed, we headed back for Port Hueneme. Soon we were saying "so long" to the crew of the "Yellowtail," the finest friends a skin diver can have (providing you keep within your limits and seasons). For myself and the fellows who helped plant the Solimar Reef we appeal to all divers in this area to let our little crop prosper in peace until a few years hence when we can all have good hunting and diving. Thanks!!

runs full length from just aft of his head to his tail, and a black spot about the size of a dime at the base of his tail. Normally he's colored a dark brown with a yellowish white belly, but during the spawning season his pectoral and ventral fins are a bright green, and his belly is a greenish hue. Also, the black spot at the base of his tail is encircled by an orange iridescent circle, all making him a rather strikingly colorful fish.

During the Spring his favorite haunts are in the shallow, weedy water, where he spawns. However, after the spawning he retires to deeper water during the day, coming into the weed beds at night to feed. He is primarily a nocturnal predator, and it has been estimated that he consumes at least three times his own weight in other fish every 24 hours during the summer months. I have personally seen a Bowfin attack and eat a young bass better than half his own size, swimming about with the half consumed victim protruding from his jaws until such time as enough of it was digested to enable him to swallow the rest.

Spearing the Bowfin is rather an exacting sport, due to his environment and tenacity of life. In order to locate him the spearfisherman must necessarily dive down into the heart of the weed beds and venture along the tunnels and runways he finds there. Once located, the Bowfin shows a disgusting lack of co-operation by acting coy. A favorite ruse of his is to keep a large clump of foliage between the diver and himself, making it necessary for the diver to make several trips to the surface and back before he's able to get off a shot. Very often, upon returning from the surface, the diver finds that his would be target has departed for parts unknown, in his absence. However, if he's successful in making his shot, the Bowfin suddenly erupts into some 2-3 feet of explosive energy, fighting frantically until boated, and even after. Extreme care should be taken when handling or getting within reach of a speared Bowfin, as he's very efficient when it comes to biting, unlike most freshwater varieties.

It's unfortunate that the Bowfin, with all his other virtues, should be practically worthless for food. Due to his streamlined shape, and extreme boniness, however, he's not considered fit to eat, and as a result usually ends up with a rather irreverent burial.



SKIN DIVERS "CAMP OUT"—Strong enough to last for many seasons. Two man tent with floor, made of tough vinyl plastic. Has cotton mosquito net entrance flaps. Tent is welded into one piece. Weighs only four pounds. Comes complete with poles, stakes and ropes in zippered vinyl carrying bag. Price—\$15.98 from, Tamex, 608 N. St. Andrews Place—Box 5, Los Angeles, California.

SKIN DIVER—November 1959

SPORT! ADVENTURE! EXPLORATION!

Do these words sound exciting to you? They do to me! Recently, much to my pleasure, I had the opportunity of participating in a venture which gave me a chance at all three.

In April of 1959 the Skin Diving Club of Savannah, Georgia, began making plans for its summer activities, and among these was a trip by charter boat from Miami, Florida to the Bimini Islands in the Bahamas.

At 6 p.m., Saturday, June 20, the small caravan began the first leg of its journey to Bimini. The trip to Miami was uneventful with the exception of small jokes and the ribbing that went on. Not so much as a flat tire to dampen our hopes.

The name of the boat was the Hot-Spur. While Paul and a couple of the other guys were looking for the boat, some of us decided to take advantage of the clear water of Biscayne Bay and did some snorkeling. It was here that I saw my first barracuda, and I don't mind admitting I was scared! Of all the other barracudas and sharks we saw on the trip none was deadlier looking than this one! This slender, dark, five-foot-long fish was the most ferocious beast my imagination could possibly conceive!

Monday morning food was bought in a nearby grocery and loaded aboard the craft. From the size and number of bags that were stored away, I was beginning to think we would be out to sea for a month instead of a week. By three p.m. we threw off the lines and left the dock for open water. This was the first time the majority of us had ever been out of sight of land. Everyone thought the others would get seasick, but no one did. No one had time to get sick. The captain turned the wheel over to us one at a time, letting each person have a chance to show his hand at navigating a craft on the open sea.

We made the shore of Bimini and were tied up to the docks at eight o'clock that same night. After grabbing a bite to eat and making everything secure for the night, we decided to see what night life they had to offer on the island and set out on the search. We didn't have to look very far to find something altogether different from what you find in the states. The first thing to attract you will be the beat of music that you come across only once in a while in the states, maybe on a theater screen or, if you're lucky enough, in a night club that has import-

ed one of the bands that plays this type of music. It gives you a different feeling, a primitive feeling that makes you want to forget the civilized world for a little while. Then you step inside and everything seems the same as it would be at home but yet somehow different. The room will resemble almost any night club you might find in your hometown. There's the band to provide music, the bar to provide refreshments and the people themselves, yet everything is different. There's no tension, no strain, everyone appears to be perfectly relaxed, except maybe you. I momentarily felt like an intruder among these people, but very soon I was one of them, enjoying the loss of my inhibitions and the exhilaration of being alive.

They do a dance there that is something between a Boogie and a Cha-cha, just what it was I don't know, but I had to give it a try and asked an unescorted dark-skinned beauty if she would attempt to teach me the steps. After half an hour of trying unsuccessfully to master this art—I call it an art because of the graceful way the girls had of moving with the music—I made up my mind to give it up.

Tuesday morning we pulled away bright and early from the dock to get out to a place where we could dive and look for fish. Well, all I had to do was look over the side of the boat and there they were. When we dropped anchor it didn't take more than two minutes to empty the boat. Everybody hit the water, including the captain, and, as always, he was the last to leave the boat.

The water was as clear as anybody could ask. Visibility was excellent. As

you dropped into the depths you felt as though you had entered into another world. The water was beautiful enough from above, but there are no words to describe the loveliness to be found in the depths of such clear, beautiful water.

Fish are plentiful in these waters and there were enough for all. Everybody landed one or more, and while one of the guys, Buddy Lindsay, who turned out to be quite a chef on the trip, prepared the fish, the rest of us explored the bottom. We picked up a few souvenirs while we were down, starfish, shells, coral, and a few more things.

When it was time to go back to the dock for the night, we were one pushed crew!

Wednesday and Thursday were much the same, with the exception of diving on a large concrete barge that had been grounded not far from the island. We tried exploring this and found unexploded shells still in its hold. The barge had apparently been sunk by some type of mortar shelling. There were mortar shells still sticking into its sides where they had struck and lodged without exploding. Talk about souvenir hunters, we had one guy try to bring back one of those unexploded shells! But we changed his mind fast.

Three of the members had a short encounter with a shark. Each had speared a fish and were returning to the boat when a shark, smelling the blood of the wounded fish, came up and tried to get a free handout. After making several passes at the apparently undefended food and receiving a number of sharp blows from the holders on each pass, he gave it up as a lost cause and went about hunting his own meal. This incident was the only one that brought us into any real danger with sharks.

The average weight of the fish we encountered was 20 to 25 pounds each. Paul Garret won the 20-dollar pool we had formed, for largest fish speared, with his 45-pound grouper.

Friday we made the return trip to Miami, where we once again loaded our cars and began the trek back to Savannah. The trip home was a lot quieter than when we had traveled down the same road six days before! Three of our members, John Nasworthy, Travis Strahan and Don Bragg, stopped off at West Palm Beach to spend a few days diving in Florida. The remaining seven of us, Paul Garrett, Donny Bragg, Bill Robertson, Rene Lanier, Buddy Lindsay, Charles Williamson and myself, went on home.

By Eugene Henderson



Savannah Skin Diving Club in Bimini.

by Ginger

The year of the skin diver's association's... This training is aimed at Game Conservation members of The GSS while completing their first phase, first class, Fish and Game Fire Department graduates and exercises in a... Our country's... The minimum... Each session... lecture, an... picture con... and one-ha... Throughout... students to... time.

Bill Fesp... Physical... YMCA we... classrooms... ring pool... Our train... on classro... instruction... to encour... sport and... a student... recreation... The GS... ing is bei... of vice-cl... master div... derwater

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SKIN



GEORGIA STATE SKIN DIVERS ASSOC.

66 Pryor St., NE
Atlanta 3, Ga.

By Ginger Rubley

The year of 1959 has finally seen the initiation of the Georgia State Skin Diving Association's advanced diving training course. This training program, now well under way, is aimed at the training of the State Fish & Game Commission, the State Patrol, and members of the Atlanta Fire Department.

The GSSDA advanced training program, while complex in detail, has moved through its first phase in a very orderly fashion. Our first class, including men from the Georgia Fish and Game Commission and the Atlanta Fire Department, started on June 20 and was graduated on July 19 with deep diving exercises in a north Georgia quarry.

Our course included eleven training sessions. These classes are conducted with a minimum of formality, but with very close attention to diving theory and water safety. Each session included at least an hour of lecture, an interesting and instructive motion picture concerning diving, and at least one and one-half hours of training in the water. Throughout the course we encouraged our students to feel free to ask questions at any time.

Bill Fesperman, head of the Atlanta YMCA Physical Education Department, and the YMCA were very generous in providing both classrooms, and their most excellent swimming pool for our use.

Our training program, while concentrating on classroom diving theory, actual diving instruction, and water safety, is also designed to encourage the students to dive for the sport and fun of skin diving. We know that a student who enters into skin diving for recreation gains experience very quickly.

The GSSDA program of advanced training is being conducted under the supervision of vice-chairman Jack Faver. Jack is our master diver, and director of training and underwater safety.

Albany Skin Divers—Albany—Reporter Jean Miller—August 8, 9, at Radium Springs the Albany Skin Divers gave an exhibition of skin and scuba diving for the Junior Chamber of Commerce State Meeting. Officials at Radium Springs let the divers use scuba for this show only.

Acts and divers were as follows: snorkel diving, Jean Miller and Bonny Jenkins; mask

clearing, Roger Wells; diving to 30 ft. depths retrieving heavy objects, Carter Burrell, James Reed, Edward Market; body recovery, Roger Wells, Edward Market; proper use of equipment, Fred Eglin; hyperventilating and submerging were accomplished by Jimmie Miller five minutes, Ferd Eglin three minutes thirty-five seconds, Roger Wells two minutes forty-seven seconds. There was emergency dumping of scuba in 30 ft. of water and recovery and donning it beneath surface. Jimmie Miller ate a banana below the surface to astonish the crowd.

We have been holding training meetings at Morrison Springs for our divers. Albany Skin Divers entered two men teams and one women team in the Miami spearfishing tournament.

ALBERTA SKIN DIVERS COUNCIL

By G. L. Gray
1304 4th St. S.W.
Calgary, Alberta
Canada

An Alberta conference for skin divers was held at Sylvan Lake, Alberta, August 22nd and 23rd. The conference was sponsored by the Calgary Sub-Aquatic Club and all six diving clubs in Alberta were invited to attend. Approximately seventy-five people gathered at Y. W. C. A. Camp Kinnaid for the two-day meet.

Under the chairmanship of Don Lovo of the Calgary club, the conference succeeded in establishing a provincial organization to be known as the Alberta Skin Divers Council. This new organization, comprising one member from each club, was organized primarily to deal with spearfishing privileges in Alberta waters as well as to provide a means whereby the sport of skin diving could be promoted throughout Alberta. It was decided that the new council will publish a monthly bulletin to be distributed to all members of the individual clubs.

In addition to the formation of the council, several talks were given on local diving conditions, mouth-to-mouth respiratory resuscitation, use of the Divers Flag, and the female aspects of skin diving. Two spearfishing contests were held, one for individual competition restricted to burbot (locally known as "ling") only, and one for team competition including all fish except perch. A member of the Red Deer club won individual honors while the Edson club won the team contest. In all, it was a most successful conference as well as an enjoyable weekend, and confirms the rapidly growing interest in the sport of skin diving in Alberta waters.

CENTRAL CALIFORNIA COUNCIL OF DIVING CLUBS

By Marlene Strawn
15558 Wicks Blvd.
San Leandro, Calif.

A total of 112 divers registered for either or both the spearfishing and abalone contests held in June at Van Damme State Park in the Fort Bragg area. Sponsors of the competition, the Northern California Skin Divers, donated the net proceeds of \$77 from entry fees to the fund for the U.S. World Championship fund. Trophies were awarded by Jack Tees, AAU representative, to first place winner in largest single fish and largest aggregate catch, Roger Chun of the Moby Dicks. His largest fish was 16 lbs., 15 oz. ling cod, and his total aggregate was 56 lbs. 14 oz.

Trophies also went to the following divers—Rich Anderson of the Sonoma County Reef Runners, largest cabazon; Lee Hudson of the Kelp Klippers of Sacramento, largest fish of other variety; Dick McCandless, Reef Runners, second place in aggregate catch; Oscar Asturias of the Panther Rod and Gun Club of Oakland, third place in aggregate catch.

First place in the abalone contest was won by Ray Hansen of the Northern California Skin Divers, followed by Elwood Smith of the East Bay Barnacles who placed second. Third place trophy went to Garnett Pierce of the Royal Dolphins.

Hard working judges for the successful event were Willis McJunkin, Manuel Duarte, Bill Swegart, and Warren Howard.

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Bob Loecher of New York landed this 48", 43 lb. striped bass during a recent dive off the coast of Rhode Island.

ATLANTIC SKIN DIVING COUNCIL

By C. K. "RUSTY" SHERRILL
4104 33rd Street South
Arlington 6, Virginia



The Atlantic Skin Diving Council's annual general meeting was held in September. Comprehensive secretary-treasurer's report was submitted by Neal Nichols followed by a report on rescue, safety and training by Jim Slater. C. K. Sherrill gave a report to Council members on the Underwater Society of America and received instructions and comments to take with him on his trip to the Board of Governors' meeting in Chicago. Van Buskirk was elected to a second term as president. C. K. Sherrill returned as chairman and the secretary-treasurer slot was taken by Richard Thomas; Jim Slater was re-elected as safety officer and instructor.

I should like to take this opportunity to express my appreciation and gratitude to the members of the Atlantic Skin Diving Council and the delegates of the Outstanding Divers Committee for awarding me the 1959 Outstanding Diver Award. Thanks—one and all!

Members of the Flipper Dippers recently held their semi-annual dinner party.

Jim Robinson of the Naval Research Laboratory Skin Diving Club announced that they will sponsor a "Wet Suit Workshop" on November 20, at 7:00 p.m. Suit patterns will be available and experienced personnel will be on hand to assist members in the fabrication of their suits. Members should sign up through their club secretary for this worth-while project.

On September 8 the Atlantic Skin Diving Council's newly formed disaster team, headed by Dan Dunfee of the National Institute of Skin Diving Technology, responded to a call from Fairfax police to recover a drowning victim from a gravel pit near Shirley Highway in Arlington, Virginia. Jim Slater surfaced with the body.

On the new club scene the Atlantic Skin Diving Council is happy to welcome two fine additions. NSA Academy of Skin Diving, headed up by Dean, Dick Seron, assisted by Robert Harmon and Bill Martin. Membership is limited to National Security Agency personnel. The club may be contacted by writing to the Operations Building, ATTN: NSA-CWFC, Fort George G. Meade, Maryland. The Maryland Underwater Rescue Team, organized and devoted to underwater rescue and recovery work in the State of Maryland, is headed by Bill Kibler and Glenn Minton. Persons over 21 years of age interested in this specialized group may contact them by writing to 13102 Evanston Street, Rockville, Maryland.

The Maryland Underwater Explorers recently made elaborate plans to explore a vertical water-filled mine shaft in southern Pennsylvania. After acquiring the specialized gear, the club set forth on the greatly anticipated adventure. On their return to Washington, Ernie Minor reported that the shaft was thoroughly investigated—all the way to the bottom—six measly feet down!!!

A group of divers from the Council recently journeyed to Ocean City, Maryland, to dive on an unidentified wreck found by a fishing boat captain. This wreck, not indicated on charts and due to the contour shown on the fathometer tape, was thought to be a

submarine. Members found the wreck in 105 feet of water and were very disappointed to identify it as a tanker lying upside down on the bottom.

The Atlantic Skin Diving Council cordially extends a welcome to any club in the Maryland, Virginia, West Virginia and Washington, D.C. area interested in availing itself of the benefits derived from Council organization. Drop a card to Dick Thomas, secretary and treasurer, 4104 33d Street, South, Arlington 6, Virginia.



Editor's note: MAUC Council reporter C. K. "Rusty" Sherrill was named 1959 Outstanding Diver at the annual general meeting. Each year the delegates from the affiliated clubs form a committee to select from the membership the one diver who has made the most outstanding contribution to skin diving through his participation in Council activities. Rusty is Council chairman, secretary-treasurer of the Pioneer Skin Diving club, a delegate to the Board of Governors of the Underwater Society of America for the Atlantic Skin Diving Council, and underwater photo director for the Underseas Laboratory of Washington, D.C.

WASHINGTON COUNCIL OF SKIN DIVING CLUBS

By Richard Klein
18622 26th West
Aldewood Manor, Washington

President Lee Morton called to order the meeting in Tacoma which was hosted by the Tacoma Scuba Divers. It was proposed that competitive skin diving rules be revised. A committee of five members, Lee Morton, Jim

Brown, Louella Jackson, Bill Mertz, and Dick Klein, was selected for the job.

At the next Council meeting there will be a demonstration and movie on mouth-to-mouth resuscitation. The Red Cross is offering a first aid course. A minimum of 10 people is required for the class. Frank Wolffe of the Northwest Divers mentioned that his club had just finished taking the Red Cross course and highly recommended it for all clubs.

Our September meeting of the Council was held at the Redondo Marina at Redondo Beach. Our president, Lee Morton, informed us that by the next meeting the Council will be incorporated. It has been in process for five months now. We incorporated incorrectly the first time.

The Council sold tickets on diving equipment and used the funds to send our president to the U.S.A. meeting in Chicago on September 26th. The first three lucky winners were R. Heuer, who won a complete scuba outfit; Wally Ward who won a skin diving outfit, and Joe Healy, who now has a two-tone custom neoprene wet suit. How lucky can you get? They are all divers, too.

Herb Hall of the Seattle Aqua Divers informed us that he has recently purchased a 75-foot auxiliary sailer and will be happy with just breaking even on some charters. This could be a real ball for your club. Herb says there is enough room for the wives and girl friends. For further information contact Herb Hall, Radio KAYO, MA-3-2480, Seattle, Wash.

The Council Skin Diving meet was held on the 6th of September at Sunset Beach. The water was so rough that it was necessary to hold a vote of the participants to see whether to hold the meet or postpone it. The majority voted to go ahead with it. The Victoria team of Bill and Allen Hook and Denny Kempton placed first. The Blackfish took Second and Third places. Bill Mertz took largest ling cod award and Howard Mansfield took the trophy for largest rockfish.

The November 13th meeting will be held at Seattle Skin Diving Supply.

Puget Sound Blackfish—The Blackfish who won the North Pacific A.A.U. Regional Championship were sorry that their team of Blanchard, Mertz and Klein was unable to attend the National in Miami due to the lack of funds. We wish to extend congratulations to the winning team.

The club has had several outings lately. One was of members and families at Lake Kachess. Dick Klein took his boat along so the members could do some water skiing. Four new members were voted into the club: Bob Hill, Eldon Howard, Ed and Merlyn Wilson.

At a recent outing to San Juan Park, Ed Wilson took a 48-lb. ling in 40 feet of water. This was the largest catch at the outing.

The Blackfish have been very busy trying to find virgin diving areas. A new wreck has been located and the fishing is very good—30 and 40 lb. ling in 40 ft. of water. The club has sworn to keep the spot a secret as long as possible!

Puget Sound Mudsharks—Seattle—Reporter Gary Keffler—The Puget Sound Mudsharks attended the Third Annual Seafair Spearfishing Meet held August 2nd. The club took top honors winning First, Second and Third places. The winning team of Gary Crymes, Dale Dean and Gary Keffler took a total of 68½ lbs. This total was the highest recorded for this event.

John Tallman on a recent outing landed a 14-lb. wolf eel which Gary Crymes claims was rubbing noses with him when John shot it. This eel is the largest taken to date skin diving.

Bill High spent a month in Alaska and did
(Continued next page)

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Puget Sound Mudshark club members took first, second and third place slots in the Third Annual Sea-fair Spearfishing contest.

ame diving there. He has some stories to tell about the king crab that grows to six feet across.

The Puget Sound Mudsharks would like to congratulate Mack Thomson, one of its members, who set another underwater endurance record. He was down 72 hours, 5 minutes and 35 seconds. The club provided the necessary divers and stand-by help and did much preparatory work for the dive. We all feel the experiment was very educational and worth-while.

Bill High, Gary Rogers and Ken Way took second place in the Annual BarView spearfishing meet held each year in Oregon. Bill High also took home the largest fish trophy with a 27-pound ling cod, the largest taken skin diving from this area.

Gary Rogers and Bill High have taken to the hills in search of gold. Not too much to report on this except that the last time we

saw Gary he was driving a new car ???

Everett Sounders—The Everett Sounders have had an active summer, with weekly diving in the San Juans and some local diving highlighted by a night dive. On a San Juan trip Wally Ward tangled with a 55-pound ling cod and got the best of it, coming very close to a skin diving record.

A club outing has been planned with hopes of chartering a 32-foot boat. Members will participate in depth and time underwater competition to establish individual points by which the club then determines the teams that will participate in the spearfishing tournaments.

At the last meeting the Sounders voted not to spearfish when using lungs above 60 feet. This was done in the hope that other clubs in the area will do the same in order to help preserve our excellent fishing.

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There are no more worries for the Dreamer owner about trailer speed limits and people riding in the back, or stoves to pump or tents to pitch on a cold night, and lights, they come already hooked up. Just think—No more tandem hookups for your boat and trailer to your house trailer, and that whole mess hooked up to your family car.

No longer will the wife complain about the beach living. Double your diving time with the Dreamer.



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By: Joe Birkbeck

412 Harrington Road
Havertown, Pennsylvania

Summer activities within the Council have been at fever pitch. The Individual Spearfishing Contest was held at Lewes, Delaware, with some of the old familiar faces showing up as winners again. Competition was keen, however, and the winners were given a good fight right up to the finish.

Divers Flag posters have been distributed up and down the coast to help make boaters and captains aware of the Flag's meaning.

There will be many new activities this winter sponsored by the M.A.U.C. We heartily invite all clubs located within the physical limits of our Council to come and join us. This will give your club the protection of unified action against anti-skin diving legislation also representation through the Council with the Underwater Society of America, plus the opportunity of participation in Council-sponsored activities, contests, etc. For meeting information please contact Joe Birkbeck, 412 Harrington Road, Havertown, Pa.

Delaware Underwater Swim Club by E. B. "Chip" Cooper—"Chip" Cooper and Douglas Ruthardt of the Delaware Underwater Swim

Delco Divers, John Pekola, Chester Haven, Wylie Borum, Jess Phillips, Maryanne and Roy Bosshardt, and Fred Miller at one of many demonstrations.



Club spent the last week of June diving in the Gulf of Mexico out of Tarpon Springs and Bayport, Fla. As a climax to an enjoyable diving vacation, the first week of July was spent diving at Lool Key in the company of Hardy W. Bryan (of the St. Petersburg Skin Divers) who was the essence of hospitality.

Woodbury Skin Divers by Phil Collins—The Woodbury Skin Divers bought a surplus motor whale boat for \$250. It has a four-cycle engine, steel hull, and is 24' long. After an outlay of \$350, for minor repairs, welding the crankcase, addition of diving ladder and the erection of a 20' mast for Divers Flag, the "Scuba Queen" was ready for use. We find this boat ideal for our purposes of spearfishing and light salvage and it is capable of carrying 15 to 20 equipped divers in the open ocean with complete safety. Ideal for any club interested in acquiring a boat yet having limited funds!

Philadelphia Depth Chargers by Sunny Pokropski—The most memorable dive that we made this summer was the one at Lake George, N. Y. The water was clear as any diver could wish for, as Joe Birkbeck can attest. He did some night diving around 8 o'clock and at 50-ft. could look up and see the propellers of the boat.

Delco Diving Club by Vaughn Nickerson—The Bill Baxters went to Florida but their diving was limited due to bad weather. Roy and Maryanne Bosshardt went to Florida also, and had good diving.

Vaughn Nickerson had an enjoyable time diving off the coastal waters of Nova Scotia, Canada. The water was warm enough for just a wet suit. Visibility and fishing were excellent. Roy Blodgett, Bill Cox, John Pekala, Jesse Phillips and Fred Miller all had a good trip to Lake George, N. Y.

The Delco Divers hit the local headlines when Roy Blodgett, with the assistance of Jesse Phillips and Chester Haven, located and recovered the body of a suicide victim.

The club has conducted several demonstrations in neighboring areas and these have been well received. The club celebrated its third anniversary with a picnic at Southern Pennsylvania Sportsmen's Lake.

Baywatchers—Wilmington, Del.—Reporter Edward Hertfelder—Baywatchers have suspended operations to replace gear lost overboard and until they can glue their suits back together.

We tried to total the number of fish landed during the summer and it seems our club consists of six unmitigated and two mitigated liars! We held no treasure hunts, wienie roasts or membership drives and have not given any spine-tingling pool demonstrations.

Our '59 "tiger" award went to D. S. Jones who landed a five-foot shark with a lance. A film on diving called "Weekend Rendezvous" was shown at our last meeting.



P.O. Box 165, Flushing 1, New York

By GENE PARKER

Johnson Road, RD #4
Scotia, New York



CRISIS

A long telephone conversation with V.P. Don Shearer bore conviction that the raise in Council dues is an absolute necessity. Northern N.Y. State clubs voiced disapproval of the dues hike. (This is the first and only time we've ever had dissension in the Council.) For the sake of an enduring Council, let us hope that we can have a meeting of minds.

Dutchess Divers won both the skin and scuba diving events this year at Skaneateles. Congratulations, Dutchess Divers! More about this event in next month's news.

Instructor Certification—The Council is taking "the bull by the snorkel" in certifying diver instructors. An outline of the course is being compiled. Pre-tests will be conducted at YMCAs in Rochester, Schenectady, Queens Central, McBurney N.Y.C., Railroad N.Y.C., and Huntington, L.I. Other areas are being considered. All persons interested in the Instructor Certification Workshop write for application form.

Dinner Dance—Planned tentatively for December 5. Next month would be too late to let you know (that 60-day Skin Diver pre-publication deadline you know).

(Continued next page)

SKIN DIVER—November 1959

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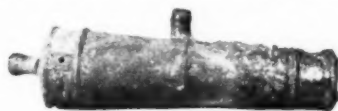
Photo Contest—Black-and-white, color, and movie shots should be submitted now.

Council Info—For the benefit of divers asking about the Council, please see July 1958 Skin Diver.

Schenectady YMCA Treasure Hunt—On Sunday, August 16, fifteen cars and several boatloads of our divers descended en masse on Shearer's camp at Gull Bay, Lake George. Photographers from the Sun Oil Company took photos of the event. The story was televised on WAST, Channel 13, Albany. Gull Bay is a beautiful rockbound inlet with clear water and a smooth bottom, 20 to 40 feet deep. Disks were scattered in two areas—one for skin divers, and one for scuba divers. Dave Iverson set up a wharf on Gull Island for the divers' convenience.

Winners were: Skin diving: 1st place—Len Jones; 2nd place—Bill Sampson; 3rd place—Paul Christensen; booby—Chuck Franklin. Scuba: 1st place—Gail Wetmore; 2nd place—Len Jones; 3rd place—Edwina Jones; booby—Jim Parrish.

Cannon—On Sunday, August 9, Allen Bassett was diving with the Smith Brothers, Lake George, and Jack Wheeldon, Greenwich, from the Smith Brothers' diving boat, "Iron Mike." Bassett was being towed behind "Iron Mike" on a diving plane when he saw the barrel of a cannon sticking out through the mud bottom of the lake. He dropped off the diving plane and with the help of Louis Smith attach a line to the cannon and towed it to shore near Fort William Henry. The cast-iron cannon was in very good condition except for one trunnion which was broken off. No British or French markings were found, which would indicate that it was of early American manufacture. Numerous cannons of this type were cast in Philadelphia around 1750 for the Colonial forces.



Rockland Blue Fins—Reporter Irene Soben—The Rockland Blue Fins Diving Group camped out at Montauk Point and went spearfishing recently. Visibility for diving was excellent and the catch of fish was enough to keep all members well fed.

All American Skin Diving Club—Long Island City—Reporter Bill Curran—The All American Skin Diving Club recently elected a new group of officers to serve for the coming year. Former V-P Harry Drinkwater has been named president. Herb Cutting and Bill Curran have been elected vice-president and secretary-treasurer respectively. Rudy Sup was re-elected as recording secretary.

Rudy Sup hosted Empire State Underwater Council members Art Illiano and Charles Dunn aboard his cruiser, the Pusydur. Art and Charles were escorting two of the world's most prominent divers, Andre Laban and Albert Falco. They visited the wreck of the Acara and found diving conditions there excellent. Laban was intrigued with our old friend the horseshoe crab. He had never seen it before and took one back with him for further study aboard the Calypso. Falco, a former world's champion spearfisherman, was content with a catch of several lobsters.

In addition to the usual trophies, the club plans to award one to the man judged outstanding in his efforts to aid the group during the past year. The trophies will be awarded at the annual dance in November.

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**NEW
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By Bill Skripko
22 Roosevelt Street
Laurence Harbor, N. J.

Top news of the month concerns the rejection of the proposed ordinance banning skin diving in Point Pleasant. At a show-down between local fishermen and skin divers at the August 25th hearing Councilman William Gillette stated that to settle the argument by banning spearfishing would be unfair to the spearfishermen and recommended that the proposed ordinance be rejected. A 5 to 1 vote sustained Councilman Gillette's opinion, with Mayor Sinn seeking further study of the issue before dropping it. The (controversial?) "Point Pleasant System" is sleeping quietly for the time being. Shhhhhh!!

STATE LAWS

The New Jersey State Law pertaining to the taking of Striped Bass reads as follows:

Closed Season (23:5-5.1) From December 31 to March 31. **Legal Length (23:5-5.2)** "No person shall take, catch, kill or have in possession at any time any striped bass measuring less than eighteen inches in length, or take, catch, or kill in any one day more than ten striped bass." **Goggle Fishing (23:5-5.1A)** (Approved May 17, 1952) "Notwithstanding the provisions of the act to which this act is a supplement, striped bass may be taken, caught and killed in the waters of the Atlantic Ocean during the open season therefor, by goggle fishing. For the purposes of this section, goggle fishing is defined as the taking of fish by means of a spear, harpoon, dart, arrow or other missile **HAND HELD AND HAND PROPELLED** by the fisherman while he is completely submerged in the water."

This means that any spearfisherman who takes a striped bass in Jersey ocean waters with anything other than a simple hand spear (without rubber sling) **IS BREAKING THE LAW.**

Through the efforts of some of the rod and reel fraternity our divers are slowly but surely being legislated out of the water. Cal Smith of the Underwater Fishermen of N.J. has submitted a proposed tentative three-point research program to study both local and state legislation and jurisdiction over the waters.

The Cooper River near Pennsauken was the site of the recovery of a 200-pound safe by divers John Hendrickson and Randall Hampton of the Woodbury Skin Divers. The safe, stolen from a Medford hardware store August 4th, contained checks and receipts when brought to the surface, but \$800 in cash was missing. The recovery was effected in fifteen feet of water under conditions of zero visibility within fifteen minutes time. An outstanding job by the Woodbury Skin Divers.

For those people who were fortunate enough to have visited the Calypso I am sure that they feel as I do, that it was one of the most memorable events in their own personal history of diving. To those of the Calypso, the Empire State Underwater Council, the Long Island Dolphins and James Dugan we say our deepest thanks, and my personal thanks to Roy Keiser for an excellent guided tour jam-packed with so much information that I don't know how he remembered it all!

(Continued next page)

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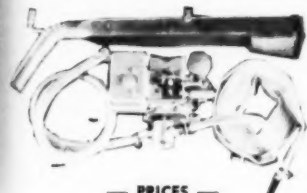
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The big bass are back with 30 and 40 pounders being taken. Mal Kerr still holds the state record with a 59 lb striper. Leading the state this year is Paul Van Nook with a 55 pounder. This writer finally got his first big bass weighing 23 lbs. A small one compared to most, but big for the writer.

LATE FLASH—Sam Watson loses decision.

I have just received word that a decision has been reached and handed down by Magistrate Eugene Capibianco against Mr. Watson. Full details are not available but it is suspected that Asbury Park's position regarding riparian rights over the waters has been the deciding factor. More next month.

The first cool breezes are cutting across the beaches sweeping away the bathers, and up on the jetties the divers are disappearing one by one. More room in the water as winter comes closer, but . . . there are fewer and fewer fin prints in the sand.

Woodbury Skin Divers—Reporter John Hendrickson—Saturdays and Sundays have been spent diving for Captain Baals, on the "Little Whale," an 87 ft. schooner working on a wreck, 300 yds. off Manasquan Beach, in thirty to forty feet of water. While the name of the wreck is unknown it is believed she was bringing goods from England to the Colonies when she ran aground, breaking into three pieces, sometime between 1750 to 1780.

Eighty percent of the artifacts have been recovered through the underwater efforts of Woodbury Skin Divers. Captain Baals is attempting to have his salvage permit from the New Jersey Conservation and Development Commission extended.

Ocean County Divers—Barnegat—Reporter Edwin Kissel—Organization of our club was held in September. Our officers are Jim Caldwell, president; Edwin Kissel, secretary, and Joseph Placente, treasurer.

We meet the first Thursday of the month and welcome new members.

ALABAMA STATE SKIN DIVERS ASSOCIATION, INC.

By Ruby Payne
2814 Waters Ave.
Alabama City Station
Gadsden, Ala.

We would like to announce the formation of the Alabama State Skin Divers Association, Inc. The present officers are Craven O'Bryant, president; Earl Payne, vice-president, and Ruby Payne, secretary-treasurer.

Other clubs in Alabama interested in becoming members of the state association can contact any of the above officers for further information.

Gadsden Meredevils—Reporter Earl Payne—Our club has been very active this past summer with bi-monthly meetings, a chartered boat trip off Destin, Florida, and several community projects and dives.

The club, as an underwater Civil Defense unit, was called to assist in locating the remains of a murder victim. Two of our members, Dave Lewis and Albert Erwin, assisted the city government in repairing a water main in the Coosa River. They worked in muddy, swift waters.

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South Africa . . .

False Bay Spearfishing Club—Cape Town
—Reporter John S. Battersby—The club has been in existence for seven years and is comprised of about sixty members. Our main activity is spearfishing, although several members are keen on underwater photography, both cine and still; a few members possess scuba and some have boats. We feel very strongly that it is time we were "put on the map," as we have quite a few South African records to our credit and in the annual South African Spearfishing Championships—held at Easter between the major clubs of South Africa—the individual awards have been won by members of our club.

Our main activities are in the vicinity of Cape Town, chiefly in False Bay, where visibility reaches 50-60 feet and average temperature is 55-65 degrees F. For bigger game we go to Plettenberg Bay, 350 miles to the east, where one may encounter yellowtail, garri, musselcracker and steenbras from 20 to 100 lbs.

Our chairman is W. R. Pengelly and our secretary is I. Anderson.

SOUTHEAST COUNCIL OF SKIN DIVING CLUBS

by Bud Cox

P. O. Box 42543
Miami, Florida

TIDEMEN TO HEAD SEC

The annual election meeting of the Southeast Council resulted in Dr. Duane Mead of the Tideman Underwater Society of America being elected president of the council with the vice president's slot going to Frank Shulski (Miami Reef Divers). The secretary's position was retained by Bud Cox (Miami Makos) with Phillip Bissell Shaver II (U of M Sea Devils) winning another year as treasurer. Gene Shinn (Miami Skin Divers) was successful in his campaign for the position of sergeant-at-arms. The retiring officers were given a rousing ovation as they relinquished command and the new officers expressed intentions of maintaining the high standards established by their predecessors.

Buried Treasure Brings Tax Reduction

Miami Spearman Harold Hudson found a 13 foot World War II torpedo 2500 feet from Miami's Crandon Park beach where it had rested undisturbed for 17 years. Hudson, a former UDT member, directed a Navy salvage boat to the torpedo where three Navy divers, using scuba equipment, worked one and a half hours recovering the torpedo from 18 feet of water. During the operation Gene Shinn took an unexpected flash-bulb picture underwater and divers scattered in all directions thinking their baby had blown. When Hudson found the torpedo it was lying on its side, buried in the sand except for a part of the top and two fins. The Navy pays a discovery bounty of \$100 for this type torpedo and Hudson's comment was: "If Congress doesn't appropriate it I guess I'll just have to take it off of what I owe them in income taxes."

(Continued next page)

SKIN DIVER—November 1959

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World War II aerial torpedo being recovered by Navy salvage divers near Miami, Florida. SEC photo by Eugene Shinn

The September SEC column carried a condensed version of the resolution passed by the Florida Council following the death of Alan M. Riddle. Below is the complete resolution as adopted on June 30, 1959, by the Southeast Council:

Be it resolved that the perpetual trophy of the Miami Open Spearfishing Tournament shall hereafter be known as the Alan M. Riddle Memorial Trophy of the Southeast Council of Skin Diving Clubs.

Alan M. Riddle was drowned on June 23, 1959, while diving alone in a rockpit in South Miami, Florida. At the time of the accident Alan M. Riddle was training for an elimination contest to pick the team which was to represent the United States in the 1959 World Underwater Fishing Championships.

Alan M. Riddle was an excellent skin diver, superb spearfisherman and wonderful sportsman and it is hoped that his story will be made known to all skin divers, so that they may know the dangers of diving alone.

Be it further resolved that every year the published results of the Miami Open Spearfishing Tournament shall contain a copy of this resolution.

Neptune Angels Diving Club, Inc.—Jacksonville—Reporter F. Slipsager—The Neptune Angels Skin Diving Club recently took a trip to Marathon City, on Vaca Key for two weeks. The club stayed at a motel called the Ranch House.

The coast guard at Sombrero Key lighthouse told us of a large size cuda weighing approximately 250 lbs. and about seven feet long. After a few hours of snorkeling around a few of the club members finally found "Honest Abe" as he has been named. It didn't take but a very few seconds for everyone to gain the safety of the boat and as far as we know "Honest Abe" is still to be seen around the lighthouse.

Leaving the Keys and returning to the Jacksonville area our diving club has answered the call of Civil Defense. We are now in the process of supplying three rescue teams for Jacksonville. Drop us a line, all letters answered promptly. Write Sec. Neptune Angels Skin Diving Club, Box 4605, Jacksonville, Florida.

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By
Keith Kaonis
3182 Danver St.
San Diego 17,
California

FIESTA del PACIFICO GOES UNDERWATER

The Fiesta del Pacifico, in cooperation with
the San Diego Aquatic Department and the
San Diego Council of Diving Clubs, spon-
sored an A. A. U. sanctioned spearfishing con-
test which was held at the La Jolla Cove on
September 5th. In the past, the Fiesta activi-
ties have centered around contemporary musi-
cals and Shakespearean drama primarily. This
year the Fiesta went aquatic with the addition
of sea sports. The Fiesta committee donated
an outstanding array of trophies which were
presented to the participants. The emphasis
was on awards to the individual.

A. A. U. rules were adhered to strictly. No
competitors were allowed in the diving area
for two weeks prior to the meet. A three
pound minimum per fish and nine fish per
team limit was set, a longstanding rule in the
San Diego area. Two teams of three men
from each club were allowed to compete. The
field of entries represented three A. A. U.
districts in California. The most distant en-
try was the East Bay Barnacles team, Oakland,
California. Los Angeles entries were the
Compton Dolphins, two teams; Gulls & Buoy,
two teams; the Long Beach Muirmen; the
Newport Harbor Submariners, two teams;
Nisei Kelp Tangles, two teams; Pescadores,

two teams; and the Sea Angels of Southern
California. San Diego was represented by the
Addicts, two teams; Astro Divers, two teams;
Delta Divers, two teams; Mantas, two teams;
Oceanside Green Dolphins; Sea Spooks; Aqua-
Lords, two teams, and the Kelp Kings. Four
San Diego junior teams competed: two from
the Addicts Juniors and two from the Marine
Marauders. The total field consisted of eighty-
eight competitive divers.

Conditions for the dive were excellent—
clear weather and 70° calm, clear water.
The meet began promptly at 10:00 a. m. with
a rush of divers to the water resembling the
migration of a seal herd. All divers were
cautioned under penalty of disqualification
not to arm their spearguns until they were
beyond the surf line. A fleet of safety boats,
coordinated by Dan Stevens of the Kelp
Kings and San Diego lifeguard, Vern Fleet,
patrolled the area. The safety patrol also acted
as pick-up boats for the speared catches. A
beach first-aid station was attended by Mrs.
Vern Fleet.

The boats began returning speared fish
well within the first hour, with the Addicts
and the Sea Spooks registering the first catch
of five bonito. Hundreds of spectators gath-
ered on the banks surrounding the Cove. Ma-
rine biologist Jay Quast from Scripps Institute
of Oceanography kept spectator interest at
a peak by describing the various types of
catches and their habits.

When the final flag was down and all
catches were registered, the Addicts team #1,
Ron Church, Bob Shea and Bill Howard,
emerged meet victors with a total of 30 lbs.
2 ozs. A close second was netted by Addicts



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team #2, Mickey Church, Tony Sanchez and Frank Linehaupel, with 24 lbs. 1 oz. The Compton Dolphins, Lynn Stephey, Clark Ward and Paul Hoss, netted third. Fourth was taken by the Sea Spooks, Earl Jensen, Jack Bresse and Eric Carlson. Fifth place went to the Newport Harbor Submariners, Ron Merker, Blair Smith and Dick Barnett with 12 lbs. 14 ozs., only scant ounces ahead of Mantas' Bob McClendon, Gene McClendon and Dave Chambers with 12 lbs. 8 ozs. Bob Shea, Addicts team #1, nailed the largest edible fish of the day with a 10 lb. 3 oz. bonito. Don Miller of the AquaLords edged by East Bay Barnacle Howard Strawn for the largest non-edible fish award with a 14 lb. 7 oz. shovel nose shark. The largest aggregate award (3 fish) was taken by Ron Church, with three bonito totaling 16 lbs. 8 ozs. The junior trophy was taken by the Addicts Juniors headed by Skip Price, Ron Keller and Don Wroncy.

We of the San Diego Council of Diving Clubs wish to thank all the participants in our Fiesta Dive for their attendance, and we are looking forward to seeing a far greater representation from all areas next year.

Australia . . .

The Underwater Skin Divers & Fishermen's Association of Queensland—Reporter Walt C. Deas—Our last outing was a long weekend at Fraser Island where the Queensland centenary spearfishing competition was held in August. Conditions were poor, with only six divers bringing in a catch.

Bob Webb recently speared a 323 lb. group-off Pt. Lookout. This is a new Australian record and may win Bob a two-week holiday at Heron Isle during the underwater convention in November.

A trawler was suddenly overturned in very rough weather at Southport and two club members were called to search for two men believed trapped in the overturned ship. Bill Hookway and Norm McLennan searched but found no one.

New Mexico . . .

L'Aventurers de le Monde du Silence—Lovington—Reporter Milo Jurik—We are in the process of getting rubber suits for winter diving. The water temperature during the winter is about 30 to 40 degrees, also the water rises and gets clearer.

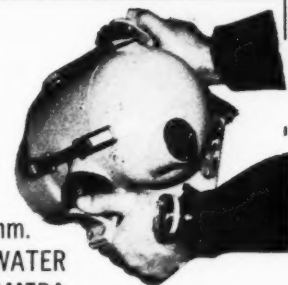
We have turned to photography and have taken some underwater still pictures. We are working on a case for an 8mm camera.

Texas . . .

Corpus Christi Piscadores Skin Diving Club—Reporter Charles D. Randall—On August 22-23 the Corpus Christi Piscadores held an invitational diving tournament at Port Aransas, Texas.

An educational lecture by Dr. Wm. McFarland, of the Institute of Marine Science, on the plant and animal life that is to be found along the Texas coast line included most of the fishes that are common to this region.

Diving began at 6:00 a.m. on Sunday morning August 23rd, and upon the divers' return the fish and their weights were recorded. Several trophies were given. Among them was one for the greatest distance traveled for the dive. This was won by the Chance-Vought group, from Grand Prairie, Texas. The club sportsman award was given to the Big Spring Texas club.



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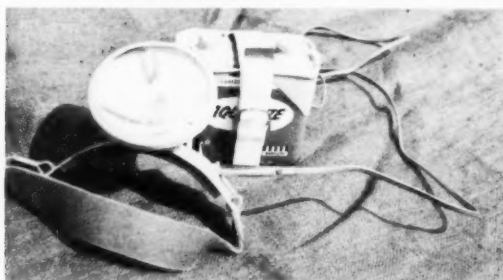
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MIDWEST DIVING COUNCIL

By Mary Edith Lillis
YMCA, 404 East 10th St.
Kansas City 6, Mo.

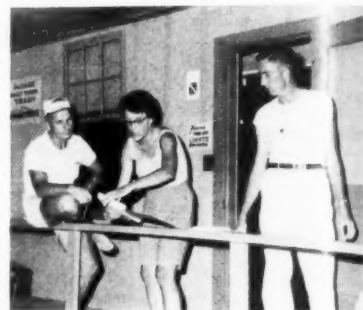
The first general meeting of the Midwest Diving Council was held August 29th at the Theodosia Boat Dock, Bull Shoals Lake, Isabella, Missouri, with 60 divers and their families in attendance.

With the Kansas City Frogmen providing the entertainment, the St. Louis Lung Rangers the air and other diving clubs providing the enthusiasm things got off to a good start with a treasure hunt. Out of the forty-five metal discs that had been sunk along a 1500 foot course, forty-three were recovered. These were brought up from depths of 10 to 35 feet, off twigs, rocks, logs, out of caves, and one of the sunken forests in the area.

In addition to the treasure hunt, a straight line navigation course using compasses at 200 yards, going from boat to shore was held while high winds whipped up the water. It had interesting results the main one being a need for more work in underwater navigation.

The most outstanding accomplishment of this two day weekend was the formation of the Midwest Diving Council, the acceptance of its constitution and seating of the Executive board. The meeting was presided over by the acting officers, John Jennings, St. Louis Lung Rangers, president, and Mary Edith Lillis, Kansas City Frogman Club, secretary. Henry Piper, Wichita Desert Divers; K. Jo Harms, St. Louis Scuba Club; Lynn Boardman and John Jennings, Lung Rangers of St. Louis; Jim Hays, Mary Edith Lillis and Ralph Poplar, Kansas City Frogman Club were elected to the Executive board by the assembled divers. Their first official duty was to elect the permanent officers and send a representative to the Board of Governors' Meeting in Chicago, September 26th and 27th.

The Midwest has taken an important step forward in the organizing of a multi-state Council and more will be heard from this neophyte group in the future.



John Jennings, Mary Lillis and Jim Hays during council's first general meeting.

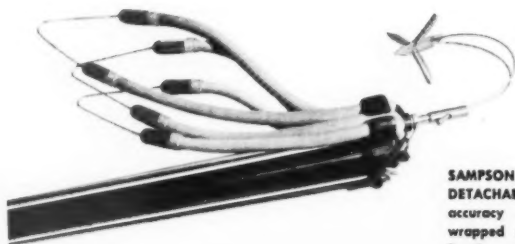
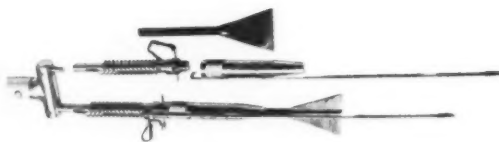
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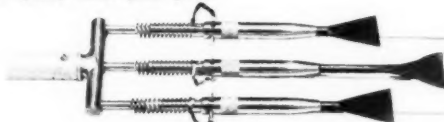
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By GEORGE BURT JR.
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At the last meeting of the Connecticut Council of Diving Clubs, Inc., the team spearfishing meet and the scuba meet were announced. The results of the year's individual spearfishing indicated that Fred Lichatz, of the Connecticut Sea Devils, is the new "Spearfisherman of the Year". Paul Boy, last year's winner, came in second.

The legislative committee announced that in the next session of the State Legislature they will press for adoption of the Divers Flag as an official flag of the State and incorporate in the State Fish and Game Laws suitable penalties and fines for violators.

The annual dinner-dance will be held on Nov. 21, at the Crystal Ball Room in Meriden, Conn. The catering will be done by the Connecticut Sea Devils club, and the tickets will be \$5.00 per person as last year.

Cliff Johnson, of Associated Skin Divers, won the New England Open Spearfishing Meet, sponsored by the Northeast Council. Cliff's collection of fish weighed a total of 46 lbs. 3 oz.

Stanley Levine, of the New Haven Barnacles, took two prizes from the Cape Cod Meet. Stanley won the scavenger hunt, and placed third in the spearfishing.

We welcome the Milford Neptunes as the 29th member club in the Council.

NOTICE

To all lung divers and skin divers who dive the Housatonic Breakwater and surrounding areas. It has been brought to the attention of the Connecticut Underwater Diving Association that there has been unsportsmanlike conduct and unsafe diving practice going on at the Housatonic Breakwater.

It is our belief that if these practices do not cease immediately that the sport in these areas can and will be stopped. For the good of the sport and those participating in it, the Association has written up the following suggestions which we hope all divers will accept and carry out.

SUGGESTIONS

1. When diving near or around fishermen, do not dive under, near or around their boats while they are fishing.
2. When diving the Housatonic Breakwater, stay as close to the breakwater as possible.
3. When diving in open water, use the Divers Flag.
4. When spearfishing never load your gun until you are actually hunting. Never carry a cocked gun on a Public Beach or when entering or leaving the water.
5. When going spearfishing, know your fish and game laws.

Norwescon Divers Inc.—Frank Fabbri—Reporter—Four hundred spectators gathered at Lynn Deming Park, Lake Candlewood, New Milford, to see a demonstration of skin and scuba diving staged by the club under sponsorship of the New Milford Red Cross and the New Milford Civil Defense.

Emphasis was placed on safety practices and recommendations of the Connecticut Council of Diving Clubs by the 25 members taking part. Two types of search plans, the circular search pattern led by Francis Giordano of Torrington, and the compass path, led by Donald O'Meara, also of Torrington, were shown.

The entire afternoon was planned at the request of the Red Cross and Civil Defense who were anxious to spread a safety message about skin and scuba diving since the community is situated in an area of lakes and rivers.

Park City Diving Association—Bridgeport—Reporter Harry Grossman—A member of the newly formed Park City Diving Association, Brad Siwy, and Paul Tzimoulis of the New Haven Tritons spent four days on Block Island looking over wrecks. They brought back an anchor and other items believed to be about eighty years old.

Members turned out en masse to visit the Calypso in New York Harbor in its berth at the French Lines. The club was taken on a well-guided tour which ended up with the meeting of Captain Cousteau's most valuable diver, Albert Falco, a former world champion spearfisherman.

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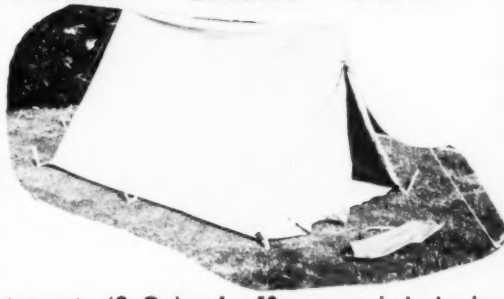
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By JOHN J. McANIFF
184 Bellevue Ave.
Newport, R. I.

RHODE ISLAND COUNCIL REPORTS

This has been one of the busiest years yet for the sport of skin diving in the state of Rhode Island, with an estimated ten thousand skin divers visiting our fine shores since early spring. Many different spearfishing events and other competitive contests have been held, including the Atlantic Northeast Regional Championships. Each of our clubs has gone along its merry way with interests ranging from scientific specimen collecting to exploration of sunken Nazi submarines.

More recently we have added to our fine list of diving clubs an all-girl club—The Sea Gals, Inc.—all of whom are fine divers. This month we also welcomed into our ranks the Sons of Posiedon Club of Matunick, R. I.

The R. I. Council-sponsored emergency diver pool has been made operational through the cooperation of all the clubs in the state. This has made available, to the proper authorities on an emergency call basis, fully qualified divers for every conceivable underwater search and recovery type of operation. This program is being followed up with a State-approved course of instruction for all the police, fire and rescue units of Rhode Island.

At the most recent Council meeting, the date of the Annual Banquet was set for November 7th at a centrally located place to be chosen by the committee composed of Al Pipes, Don Bibeau and Joe Sanocki. A notice will be sent out well in advance to all clubs in the Council of the exact location, time, etc.

From the Rhode Island Underwater Sportsmen comes the report of a fine, well attended clambake held recently for the club members, their families and friends.

From another club comes the report of a harrowing experience of cruising in a thick fog for nearly ten hours in the open Atlantic with no navigational aids and faced with a broken compass. This fortunately ended with the lifting of the fog and our hardy sailor divers found themselves forty miles south of home. On the same night members of still another club were nearly rammed in their small twenty-one foot craft just inside the New Harbor of Block Island, by the excursion steamer "Yankee" out of New London, Connecticut. Within seconds after the near miss and while still wallowing in the wake of the huge three-decker steamer, our diver friends heard a loud crash and crunching noise. Proceeding very cautiously the divers came upon the remains of the 58-foot Schooner "Delphin," out of New York, which had been less fortunate than the divers and had been rammed broadside and cut in two by

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the giant steamer. Three men aboard were rescued by the crew of the "Yankee" while a rescue boat sent out by the Coast Guard spent the night aground on the rocky breakwater of the narrow harbor. This was truly a night of problems for all sailors in the area.

On Sunday, September 20, the Newport Underwater Sportsmen successfully completed the search for the sunken German U-Boat, U853, which was knocked out of World War II by the two U. S. Destroyers, USS Atherton and USS Moberly on May 6, 1945. For the past year and a half the club has been planning its attack on the underwater graveyard of the forty-eight crewmen who went down on this sub just before the end of the war.

Once again the request goes out to all divers in and out of our state to contact the R. I. Council of Skin Diving Clubs, Inc. for any and all information concerning the sport in our area.

Recently the value of skin divers in emergencies and body recovery work was very vividly brought to the attention of many agencies, when a 39-year-old father lost his life in choppy waters just under the mammoth Mount Hope Bridge. Two of the man's children had drifted from shore on rubber inner tubes and when he attempted to rescue them he apparently suffered a heart attack which took him under. The children were brought to shore safely by a nearby boat, but the father drowned. Various rescue units from neighboring fire departments were called in and the U.S. Navy sent a helicopter to aid a Coast Guard craft in the search. After about two hours of unsuccessful operation, divers were sent for and seven men from R. I. Council clubs answered the call and located the body within twenty minutes.

Narragansett Spearfishing Club—Reporter R. Bartley—Now that competitions are over the club has settled down to the task of striped hunting. Leading the pack, as usual, is Don Bibeau who has seen so far. His two largest each weighed 33 lbs.

In a special election Walter Irace was elected our new club vice-president. Dick Bartley and Charlie Hull thought they had found a tautog heaven when they hit Whale Rock in the middle of Narragansett Bay. They took nine fish, all tautog, for a weight of over 80 lbs.

R. I. Sea Gals, Inc.—Reporter Marge Simmons—August 20th—trip to Gould Island. Commodore Monroe certainly did everything to make it informative and fun. Highlight of the day was a hard-hat dive—new to us. The recompressor was in use the day we went. Five men went down to 150 ft. on compressed air and to 60 ft. on oxygen. The new diving medical center in Buffalo was exceptionally good news. The Sea Gals had a wonderful time.

News travels far department: The Sea Gals have had correspondence from England. A Naval Rescue Unit heard about us and have been writing regularly.

Kentucky . . .

Mermen of Kentucky—Lexington—Reporter Estill Lyons—The Mermen during July and August conducted a course of instruction in scuba diving. We furnished all equipment and the instructors were Howard Blake-man, Bobby Lyons, Virgil Webster and Jim Williams. The instructions and the use of the equipment were furnished absolutely free to the general public. This course was open to men, women, and children if accompanied by their parents.

We feel we are promoting safe scuba diving by offering this free course to the public and plan to do it again next season.

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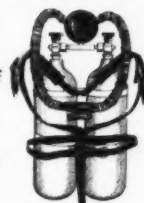


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NORTHEAST NOTES



By
B. W. LUTHER, JR.

Northeast Council
of Skin Diving Clubs,
P. O. Box 225,
Fairhaven, Mass.

On August 30th the Northeast Council held a New England Open Spearfishing Tournament at Castle Hill, Newport, Rhode Island. The contest, following A.A.U. rules, consisted of three divisions: trash fish, tautog, and striped. The following are the results of the Tournament.

Tautog Division: First, Clifford Johnson, Associated Skin Divers of Connecticut total weight 46 lbs. 4 oz.; Second, William Bowser, South Shore Neptunes of Mass. total weight 24 lbs. 11 oz.; Third, Albert Herbert, Massachusetts Sea Lions total weight of 16 lbs. 8 oz.

Striper Division: First, Danny Reynolds, Worcester County Spearfishermen of Mass. largest fish 18 lbs.; Second, Joe Mulholland, Independent from Rhode Island 2 lbs. 11 oz.

Trash Fish Division: First, Roger Haynes, Massachusetts Sea Lions 1 lb. 12 1/2 oz.; Second, Edward Rego, Fall River Aquamen, Mass. 1 lb. 11 oz.; Third, Chester Hoynski, Massachusetts Sea Lions 1 lb. 10 oz.

The following clubs participated in the meet: Newport Underwater Sportsmen, Fairhaven Whalers, Narragansett Spearfishing Club, Massachusetts Skin Divers Association, and the Semi-Panic Club of Middleboro, Mass.

Four new clubs have affiliated with the Northeast Council. The Yankee Flippers, West Roxbury Y.M.C.A., 15 Bellevue St., West Roxbury, Mass.; Neptune's Angels, 4 Lewis Place, Roxbury, Mass.; Casco Bay Aqua Divers, Portland Y.M.C.A., 70 Forest St., Portland, Maine; and the Devil Divers, 726 Brighton Ave., Portland, Maine.

A proposed bill in the New Hampshire Legislature which would have required the use of a safety boat and tender following each skin diver was defeated. This was extreme, but would have helped prevent boats striking divers. It is therefore strongly suggested that divers everywhere use a surface float flying the Divers Flag. This will prevent law makers from even thinking along the "tending boat" bit.

On November 29th the Northeast Council will hold its Fourth Quarterly Delegates Meeting which will be highlighted by the election and installation of the 1960 Officers. Following the business meeting will be the seasons banquet where participants in the tournaments will receive their yearly awards. The event will be held at Marshall Hall, 307 1/2 Broadway, Somerville, Mass. Time 6:00 P.M. For tickets contact the Council.

The Officers of the Northeast Council met with Lloyd Bridges, star of "Sea Hunt," while he was appearing at the Framingham Carousel Theatre. Ray Lawrence, of the (Continued next page)

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Framingham Sea Urchins, and Fred Calhoun, of the South Shore Neptunes, conducted a water show in the swimming pool at the Framingham shopping center while Mr. Bridges and Council President Jack Whelan addressed the audience.

The 4th Annual Treasure Hunt sponsored by the Council was held at Prescott's Beach, Laconia, New Hampshire. Eighty-seven divers from 14 member clubs competed in the traditional contest. Metal disks were the object of search, and the team of Walter Karnas and Alex Marks, Lowell Underwater Explorers, placed first, while Olin Smith and Foster Thompson, Fall River Aquamen, took second. Third place in the scuba event went to Henry Daggett and William Whiting of the New England Scubaneers. Snorkel winners were: First, Olin Smith; Second, Richard Craven, Maine Marine Alpine Club, and Third, Russ Bishop, of the South Shore Sea Serpents.

Following the Treasure Hunt at the Weirs, New Hampshire, was the Sabago Lake Tournament sponsored by the Maine Marine Alpine Club of Portland. Over 85 divers participated in a most unusual type meet: "Sea Going Plumbers". This is the latest word in scuba hunts. Over 1,000 pieces of pipe and fittings were scattered on the sandy bottom by the tournament committee. The teams of divers, connected with buddy lines, collected the various fittings and constructed some of the weirdest arrangements imaginable. Russ Gore and William Bowser, took first place with a plumber's dream (?) worth 36 points. Olin Smith and Foster Thompson combined to place second while third was taken by the Maine Marine Alpine Club team of George Hugo and Harry Thompson.

In the snorkel division the divers were asked to recover metal disks from various depths of water terminating in the 55 foot region. A surprising number of the 55 foot disks were recovered. Fred Butler, Devil Divers of Maine, took first honors with 424 points, Ronald Gallant, Maine Marine Alpine Club, 242 qualified for second, while 221 points earned third for Russ Gore.

A "Lobster Pot Grab" was held October 4th in Gloucester, Mass. Each team of divers went out in the area lobster boats to recover as many lost lobster pots as possible.

Somerville Frogmen—The Somerville Frogmen Club was formed in June, and has ten active members. Officers are president, George Fligg; vice-president, Harry Hendrickson; secretary-treasurer, Ralph Bishop. We have at our disposal, through the efforts of our vice-president, the facilities of the Somerville YMCA including an indoor pool.

Our first club dive was held on August 30, in a heavy cloudburst. Only Harry Hendrickson, Bill Endres, Jack Drinkwater and Ralph Bishop showed up on Jim Cahill's party boat, but there we met the Newton Nautilers, and an almost-full boat plowed into the thick Atlantic fog and rain. We headed out to appropriately named Misery Island, where, despite the weather, a morning filled with good diving was spent. Bill Endres looked like "Old Nick" himself in his red wet suit, and fiberglass "pitchfork" trident.

We are looking for a limited number of new members. Anyone who wishes to join our group may contact Ralph Bishop at Wells 3-5014. Meetings are held on Mondays at the Somerville YMCA.

Casco Bay Aqua Divers—Portland, Maine—Reporter Janice Ayer—We have formed a new club in Portland and chosen the name of Casco Bay Aqua Divers. We meet in the Portland YMCA.

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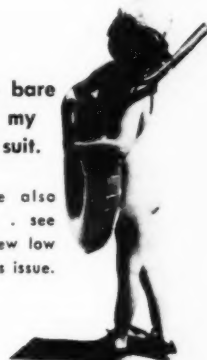
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California . . .

Humboldt Skin Divers—Eureka—Reporter Pat Mosbarger—A point of interest—as money always is—to clubs who want to raise some extra cash!

The Humboldt Skin Divers recently held a star mop in Trinidad Bay. Will Antonsen, Humboldt Skin Divers' president, won the trophy. Any diver wishing to compete for the trophy made a fifty cent donation. The purpose of collecting money on this event was to donate to the AAU to help send the U.S. team to Malta. This combined two worthwhile causes, that of clearing out starfish and raising funds for the AAU team.

Fathomiers—Los Angeles—Reporter Bob Garcia

We are proud to announce our fourth year of organization and now have a membership of thirteen active divers. The club has openings for new members. Interested persons can contact our secretary, Bob Garcia at 929 Sharonlee Dr., West Covina, ED 8-0086.

Hollywood Skin Diving Club—Los Angeles

—Reporter Clem Stein—Our club has been in existence six months and we are registered with the Greater Los Angeles Council of Diving Clubs. Our officers are Pete Felt, president; Ken Howard, secretary; Dick Venable, safety man, and Clem Stein, reporter.

The club meets every other Monday at the Hollywood Sport Shop, 6551 Hollywood Blvd. Our club is very active, with trips to San Clemente and Catalina. We beach dive every weekend. We have a membership of twenty and are starting a membership drive. Anyone interested call Pete Felt at the Hollywood Sport Shop or Charles Kinkel at HO 4-3730.

California Marine Aquarium Society—Reporter Craig Backhus

A detailed account of our last meeting would be to say simply that we saw colored pictures—fabulous fish pictures! These pictures were taken by "our own" Gene Wolfsheimer.

To others, I guess, the first thing that really catches their interest are some of the "gadgets" we use in catching our specimens. This was really brought home last weekend when Jerry Goldsmith and Dave Powell were taking specimens off Newport breakwater. Jerry has either invented or outrageously copied every instrument that he thought might be the perfect "gimmick" for catching fish, like slurp-guns, nets of every conceivable size and shape, and now finally a . . . ?

I really don't know how to describe this except that it looks like a cross between a searchlight and a ladies' hairnet! With this new contraption our boys were sweeping the rocks in an effort to capture a certain fish. I was sitting quite contented aboard the boat counting bubbles when two giants of men yelled up, "Did ya get anything?" Shortly after they pulled themselves aboard. Dave and Jerry climbed aboard with cries of, "Quick, he's getting through the net!" or "Here he's under your fin!" This happening all the while the "giants" were trying to act helpful, but looked more like someone trying to swat a nonexistent fly. Before it was all over the "big" boys had parked their arbaletes and had picked up nets for a swing at this themselves. The results of the day were not disappointing, except to me, who stayed too long at a pizza and beer house on my way home and found my fish D.O.A. Oh well, that is the advantage of belonging to a club like this, you meet very responsible and generous people. Lucky for this or I don't think I'd have a fish in my tank!

Remember for an introduction to this madness, or maybe some encouragement toward your own, call our president, Jerry Fawcett, after six WE-42734. ➡

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Michigan . . .

Marshall Seawolves Skin Diving Club—Reporter Frank Niehaus—We have just recently organized and would like to correspond with other clubs, and exchange ideas. Write to David Demott, Stuart Lake, Marshall, Mich.

The Saginaw YMCA Underwater Explorers—Reporter Joanne Crampton—Our club was organized in February 1959. We have a roster of 33 members. Meetings are held the second Thursday of each month at the YMCA.

Summer activities included a weekend trip to Charlevoix, Michigan, where the Kuka, an old sunken gambling ship was explored. The August dive at Higgins Lake featured a treasure hunt, complete with prizes. Our most recent activity took place at the Saginaw County Fair. A local contractor had a swimming pool on display. President, Don McLellan, lectured and the "Explorers" demonstrated gear and technique, making the pool one of the biggest attractions at the fair!

We would like to hear from others, perhaps exchange a few ideas. Write to me at 1710 Mershon, Saginaw, Michigan.

Oklahoma . . .

Bluegill Divers—Oklahoma City—Reporter Lewis Mason—The fifth annual business meeting of the Bluegill Diving Club was held in September. Officers for the new year are: Lewis A. Mason, president; Alan Judkins, vice-president; Darrell J. Hadley, treasurer; Judy Stuckey, secretary; Bill Graham, safety officer; Phill Bayouth, public relations officer; Louis Mutz, J. J. Price, and Bill Jones, executive committee.

Our club was inactive, but nine interested divers gathered up the loose ends and went to work to rebuild it. We now have 45 active members, five of whom are women. During this time, the club cooperated with the YMCA in a divers' training program. We also have a group divers' insurance program now. We took this insurance out through a local company and it covers death, dismemberment, loss of sight, and medical expenses—at low cost to each member.

The next project of our club is the presentation of a diver of the year trophy. This trophy is to be presented by the Bluegill Divers for the most outstanding deed or service performed in Oklahoma by an Oklahoma diver, during the year of 1959. Choice of the diver will be based on a point system established and governed by the Bluegill Divers. The trophy will be presented at a banquet in November.

Ohio . . .

Toledo Submariners—Reporter Joe Zeiler—On August 30th the Submariners held a treasure hunt at Whitehouse Quarry and several unique prizes were awarded. J. Zeiler returned recently from Key West, Florida, where he spearfished with Ed Ciesinski and Jack Steffney off Key Vaca below Marathon. These waters are still among the finest for our sport.

September 12th and 13th a statewide diving meet at Cedarville (Ohio) Skin Divers' Headquarters highlighted the season. This was the forerunner of what may be an annual major event sponsored by the individual member clubs of the Ohio Council of Scuba and Skin Divers.

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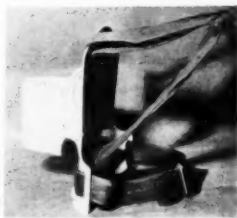
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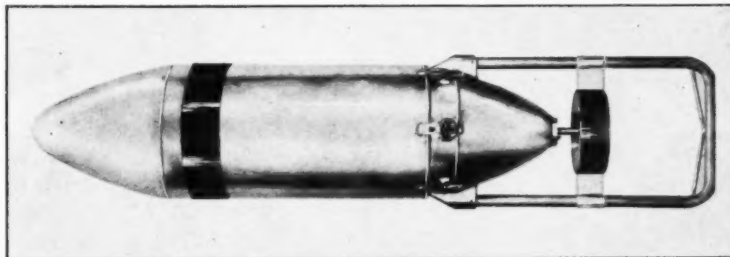
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